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## THE TIMES

The search for a  
non-violent  
Irish answer, page 12New laws on  
police  
powers to be  
proposed

The "Judges' Rules" on police interrogation are out of date and should be abolished; the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure is to recommend instead a comprehensive law should be enacted to deal with all aspects of police power. The commission will not condone a judge's right to comment adversely on a suspect's refusal to answer police questions.

Rules are outdated,  
commission says

By Marcel Berins  
Legal Correspondent

The "Judges' Rules" governing the interrogation of suspects by the police should be abolished, the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure is to recommend.

The commission, which is chaired by Professor Sir Cyril Phillips and is expected to report in December or early next year, has concluded that the rules, which are guidelines and not legally binding, are outdated and no longer appropriate.

Instead, the exact procedure for police interrogation should be laid down in detail in a comprehensive law dealing with all aspects of police powers, the commission feels.

The proposed new legislation would deal with all aspects of police powers, search, arrest, detention, and questioning, and would take the place of the existing haphazard and sometimes anomalous batch of police powers, many of which are non-statutory.

The commission's proposals would not necessarily mean that police powers would be curbed, or that they would be hampered in bringing criminals to justice. The effect would be to make all contact between a suspect and the police subject to detailed law.

Under another recommendation, the police would be able to detain a suspect for questioning for up to 24 hours at a time. If they wished to keep him for longer, they would have to get judicial permission giving reasons for wanting to continue detention.

On the so-called "right to silence", the commission has not accepted the view, forcefully put by the police and some lawyers and judges, that a suspect's refusal to answer police questions should be able to be commented on "adversely" by the trial judge, or that silence under questioning should amount to corroboration of other evidence against an accused.

The commission's thinking on police interrogation has been

Callaghan  
fury at  
rebuff over  
jobs debate

By Michael Hatfield  
Political Reporter

Mr James Callaghan, angry at the Prime Minister's "pre-emptive dismissal" of his request for an early recall of Parliament to debate the rise in unemployment, sent another letter to Downing Street yesterday.

In it he stated that he found Mrs Margaret Thatcher's arguments against a recall quite convincing. The Prime Minister had argued that it was unnecessary because the House had debated unemployment recently on July 14 and again on July 29 in the censure debate.

Mr Callaghan, in his second letter, said the Prime Minister could not deny that the number of men and women out of work had increased much faster in August than ministers had indicated in those debates.

The Labour leader continued:

"You cannot deny that the most recent figures, published only a few days ago, show that the money supply, which is your own chosen instrument for inflation, is increasing far in excess of your own targets. Ministers should tell Parliament what will be the consequences of this gross excess."

"You cannot deny that in industry is in urgent need of a large reduction in interest rates to ease its present burdens (a reduction of 1 or 2 per cent will not be enough.)

"You cannot deny the grave alarm that your present policies are causing to industry or that the efficient are being crippled and are in danger of disappearing from the industrial scene."

Mr Callaghan said Mrs Thatcher should be prepared to listen to what Mr Steel had to report about the deteriorating position in their constituencies, and to consider what policy that will be put forward.

Despite the Labour leader's fury, he and his shadow ministers recognized that there was little real chance of acceding to the Opposition's request.

A calculation on how the votes could be cast on the three Labour Party constitutional issues is contained in this week's issue of *Labour Weekly*, the party newspaper, published today. It is stressed that the figures are based on the known views of trade unions. They are:

Mandatory reselection for all Labour MPs between general elections. The union vote would produce a majority of 253,000 votes in favour. If 80 per cent of constituency party votes were also cast in favour the change would be carried by 700,000 votes (some 169,000 union votes and the 60,000 votes of the socialist societies are not counted).

Electoral reform of the party leader, the union vote would produce a majority approaching 900,000 against change. There is, the electors would remain within the parliamentary party.

Control of the constituency by the trade unions would vote against change by a majority of about 500,000. Once the constituency vote is taken into account the final outcome could be extremely close.

Leading article, page 13

One male member of the staff followed them into the street, despite the thief's threats that they would throw the grenade if they were pursued.

The Marlborough diamond was sold two years ago at Christie's for £50,000. It was the centrepiece of a diamond bangle forming a brooch pendant. The cushion-shaped diamond weighed about 48.01 carats and was surrounded with lesser diamonds.

The purchaser was Graffs, who used to make a necklace with other diamonds, having recur the main stone in the modern radiant style.

Mr Laurence Graff, the shop owner, said that the robbery was "a bit of a shock" and opened the back of his abattoir in the shop window.

They selected 20 of the largest and most valuable items and ran out of the shop, round the corner into Sloane Street, and drove off in a green Fiat super Mirafiori. The car bore no registration number OLY-13V.

The commission's thinking on police interrogation has been

Marlborough diamond among jewelry  
stolen in £1,429,000 armed raid

By John Winder

A necklace containing a 400-carat diamond once owned by the late Dowager Duchess of Marlborough was among jewelry valued at £1,429,000 stolen in an armed raid on a shop in Knightsbridge, London, yesterday.

Two men walked into Graffs, the jewellers, in Brompton Road, one pushing aside the uniformed security guard at the rear door, while a large patrolman stood by the shop. They also had a radio, some £1,000 and two customers to be seen, who had opened the back of one abattoir in the shop window.

They selected 20 of the largest and most valuable items and ran out of the shop, round the corner into Sloane Street, and drove off in a green Fiat super Mirafiori. The car bore no registration number OLY-13V.

Vauxhall men  
accept 8%  
in basic rates

Final workers at Vauxhall's biggest unit at Luton, voted in a secret ballot to accept a pay offer yielding 8 per cent basic rates. Most of the company's 10,000 manual workers are on strike. Hopes have risen that next week's threatened national dock strike can be averted after the National Dock Labour Board said that the Liverpool employers' arrival towards 178 dockers to work in their ships' jobs was unacceptable. But Britain's hospitals are a serious disruption. After a decision leaders of 3,700 engineers to reject my offer

Poland reassures  
President Brezhnev

Mr Mieczyslaw Jagielski, the Polish Deputy Prime Minister, had talks with President Leonid Brezhnev during which he firmly reassured the Soviet President that concessions granted to Polish workers during the recent unrest would not undermine the position of the Communist Party in Polish society.

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Final

## HOME NEWS

## Vauxhall workers vote in secret ballot to accept offer of 8%

By Donald Macintyre

Labour Reporter

Manual workers at Vauxhall's biggest plant, Luton, have voted in a secret ballot to accept a company pay offer yielding increases of 8 per cent on basic rates.

The vote in favour, 64.5 per cent, in a ballot of about 8,000 workers, will greatly increase Vauxhall's hopes of avoiding a widespread strike over an offer which it has said is final.

Shop stewards from the company's Ellesmere Port plant, where thinly attended mass meetings have rejected a pay offer, are expected to press at talks between the two sides in Coventry today for an increased offer.

But the Luton ballot, the first held at the plant on a pay offer, means that the chances of the company making a significant improvement are remote.

Vauxhall made it clear when it made the offer that it was the most it could afford, and drew attention to the motor-industry recession and to last year's net losses of more than £31m.

## Threat to hospitals as engineers reject 13%

By Our Labour Staff

Britain's hospitals face serious disruption after a decision yesterday by leaders of 3,700 engineers to reject a 13 per cent pay offer and call for a ballot on industrial action.

A meeting of 132 delegates of the National and Local Government Officers Association voted by a two-to-one majority to reject the offer. That call for a ballot will be discussed by the union's health committee next week.

There will be a further threat to National Health Service hospitals on Tuesday when representatives of the union's 100,000 clerical and administra-

Most of the company's 25,000 manual workers are on short time. At Luton most production workers are on a two-day week and at Ellesmere Port the night shift has been indefinitely eliminated, while other shift working is on a basis of "one week on, one week off".

The company's offer would lift the rates of skilled workers for 40-hour week from £24.80 per hour to £26.80 per hour, and those for the lowest grade of worker from £14.90 to £21.10. It would take effect from September 15.

The 4,500 workers at the company's Dursley plant, where strike ballots have been held before, have already narrowly voted to accept the offer. Two more days' holiday, applicable at first to this year alone, are calculated to add a further 1.5 per cent to the offer for this year.

The acceptance of an offer of less than half the present inflation rate is bound to be seen by ministers as evidence that manufacturing industry workers are modifying their demands in face of the recession.

## Union seeks to drive economical bargain

By David Felton

Labour Reporter

A white-collar union has found a novel way of bypassing Mrs Margaret Thatcher's exhortations to keep pay demands within single figures by claiming a new BL Mini Metro for each of its 4,000 members who work in Shell oil refineries.

Mr Clive Jenkins's Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS) yesterday submitted the claim, which according to one Shell executive, was met with "stunned silence".

Mr Roger Ward, the union's national officer, said: "We were thinking of asking for a pay rise, but we didn't want to appear inappropriate. The total cost would be £16m, although that does not include the cost of stereos, radios, which the management may wish to fit."

"Last year Shell made profits of more than £3,000m and can easily afford to meet this claim. It has been our union policy for some time that banks and oil companies should recycle their profits and this is one way for them to invest in a British product."

"This serious claim would solve their problems of what to do with surplus capital, would help an industry which is going through bad patch and would also be most welcome to our members," Mr Ward said.

Shell said last night that because the company made large profits last year that did not mean that the performance was going to be repeated this year. "Because of the recession things do not look at all sunny this year."

A delighted BL spokesman, while denying that a company salesman would be joining the ASTMS negotiating team, said BL would be sending Shell brochures extolling the virtues of the car.

"What Shell will have to bear in mind is that the Metro will be the most economical car in Europe, and will therefore not be using very much of their petrol," he said.

£500 for former patient who took his case to human rights commission

## Solitary confinement review at Broadmoor

By Lucy Hodges

A former Broadmoor patient, who alleged that he had been subjected to inhuman and degrading treatment while in solitary confinement at the hospital, has won an ex gratia payment of £500 from the Government.

His case, which was taken to the European Commission of Human Rights, has prompted a review of the procedures for putting people in solitary confinement at Broadmoor, the hospital in Berkshire for mentally abnormal offenders.

New guidelines have been drawn up by the Department of Health and Social Security, which say that if a patient is secluded for more than 24 hours the hospital management team must be informed.

Mr A, whose name is not being released, was represented by MIND, the National Association for Mental Health. He alleged that the United Kingdom violated article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights, which stipulates

that no one shall be subjected to torture or degrading treatment or punishment.

The two parties to the case reached what is known as a friendly settlement, which means that they managed to find grounds for compromise. In return for the £500, which the Government said implied no admission of a violation of the convention, said the new guidelines, Mr A and MIND agreed to drop the case.

Mr Larry Goslin, legal director of MIND, alleged on behalf of Mr A that he was locked up and neglected for 23 to 24 hours a day during a period of five weeks. "He was confined in a room which was insanitary in that it had excrement and urine left from another patient and from himself, which had a foul and stale odour in that it was poorly aired, the ventilation fan being too noisy to operate in which he had no access to toilet facilities and toilet

paper, and in which his clothes and shoes were removed and he was dressed in pyjamas, with no covering for his feet, on a bare concrete-type floor."

In a lengthy submission to Strasbourg, Mr Goslin said that the room in which Mr A was confined measured 10ft by 12ft and the patient gave the impression of being locked in a cupboard or wardrobe. He could not walk about or see the outside world. One window eight feet up the wall was covered in perspex.

One dull lightbulb hung from the ceiling. The room contained two plastic mattresses, four blankets and two plastic chamber pots, with no other furniture. "It is readily apparent that there was no place for the applicant to sit during his confinement," Mr Goslin said.

The Government said that solitary confinement was needed as a therapeutic measure. In a letter to the European Commission it added that Broadmoor's intensive care unit had been moved to a building that had been completely refurbished.

## BA Atlantic fares cut in attempt to beat Laker

By Arthur Reed

Air Correspondent

British Airways is to offer a single standby fare of £17 between London and New York from October 1, undercutting the Latin American Skytrain fare of £17.

From the same date BA will lower its standby fares to Miami by £2 to £81 and to Los Angeles by a similar amount to £108, heralding a new and bitter campaign in the air fare "battle of the North Atlantic".

BA claimed yesterday that the fares would be lower than those of any other airline with destinations in the United States and pointed out that they included the price of meals.

The airline is also to offer a new booklet low fare called "Pondhopper" to 10 destinations in the United States. The single fare to New York will be £90, to Boston £92, Philadelphia and Detroit £102, Chicago and Denver £122, LA £132, and San Francisco £134.

BA will make 2,100 seats available each way each week on those routes for passengers who book nine days before departure. Changes of return bookings can be made without additional charge, while passengers are in the United States, but there will be a refund.

Mr Roy Watts, BA chief executive, said yesterday: "The number of airlines operating on the North Atlantic continues to grow. There were seven airlines a few years ago. Today there are 13 as a result of new licences being issued by governments supporting the liberalization of the industry. Later this year two more airlines will start operating."

The Air Transport User Committee, a passenger "watchdog" committee set up under the auspices of the Civil Aviation Authority, yesterday criticized high air fares with Europe.

Mr Hugh Dykes, Conservative MP for Harrow East, yesterday suggested that Sir Freddie Laker should be appointed consultant for low air fares for the EEC.

The committee's report pointed out that a passenger flying economy class between Stockholm and London paid 179 a mile, while a passenger on the slightly "longer" Los Angeles-Seattle route in the United States paid only 3.75 a mile.

Continuing high fares Europe were largely attributable to the "Noah's Ark" system whereby pairs of governments fixed high fares to protect their state airlines from cost-cutting competition.

The committee said the business traveller was the "fat guy" of Europe. Paying a full economy fare he was often charged three times as much as his American counterpart.

**Correction**

At the annual meeting of Ranch International, reported yesterday Sir David Nicolson, the chairman of the National Union of Mineworkers, did not name Mrs Shirley Williams. Dr David Owen or Mr William Rodgers but they seemed to be the targets of his attack in a speech at Birkenhead, Merseyside.

Mr Heffer said that those who saw the Labour conference as a "place to manoeuvre, to thwart the forward thrust and socialist aspirations of the majority of the party members, must be resisted and defeated by democratic votes".

British's problems and the solutions required were no more severe than Labour's socialist aspirations to be rejected, he said.

"Those who make such threats, or who have already done so, must be politically repudiated", he said. "If any individuals feel they cannot honestly accept Labour's annual conference, democratically arrived at policies, and they

want to join the Liberal or any other party, then they should do so, and not try to turn Labour into the opposite of what it is created for."

In their now famous August open letter, the "Gang of Three" included a thinly veiled warning that defeat for the moderates on the controversial issues might justify the creation of a new socialist party committed to the principles of democracy, socialism, the Western Alliance and the mixed economy.

The most powerful speech for the No option came from Mr Heffer, MP for Liverpool, Walton, did not name Mrs Shirley Williams. Dr David Owen or Mr William Rodgers but they seemed to be the targets of his attack in a speech at Birkenhead, Merseyside.

He said there were strongly held, honest differences of view on a number of political and constitutional issues which must be democratically aired at the party conference.

But he added: "The discussions should be held, without veiled threats of a withdrawal from the party, or the formation of a new party, if decisions are taken contrary to certain individual views."

British's problems and the solutions required were no more severe than Labour's socialist aspirations to be rejected, he said.

Labour's forthcoming conference must set as its objective the bringing down of the Conservative Government at the earliest possible moment and the sharpening of the party's fight instrument by accepting democratic changes and improvements.

Assembly reports page 12; Geoffrey Smith page 12; Leading article and letter page 13

A 1.3 litre version of BL's Mini Metro glimpsed in London yesterday. The car is due to be launched on October 6.

## Deported Iranians in clash

## Mr Heffer hints that moderates should go

By Our Political Reporter

Five more Iranians, all men, were deported from Britain yesterday after a struggle with plainclothes police as they were about to board the Tehran-bound jumbo jet at Heathrow airport.

Shouting slogans of "Long Live Khomeini" and saying "the British are fascists", the five got progressively more violent as they were taken from police vans to the Iran Air flight.

On board the jet they continued to shout: "Down with aggressors". The police kept them in their seats.

Five other Iranians were also sent back to Iran 24 hours after being taken to Iran 24 hours after arriving in Britain.

Fifteen British staff of Iran Air employed at Heathrow have been given sudden dismissal notices. The airline says it is cutting back its services.

Ayatollah's warning, page 5

should succeed than did their management.

The document suggested the mechanism through which "stop stewards" who disagree with their management and reckon they can do better should be given the chance to try."

Although the paper makes it clear that priority would be given to workers seeking to avert closure by presenting an alternative survival plan, Mr Heffer said that the author believed that schemes from trade unionists in successful companies should also be shown to have a future.

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The paper observes that there is evidence of some interest in up-roots port development, and recommends a market study to determine if there is sufficient demand for waterside industry to pay the cost of maintenance and dock charges. In any case, some of the basins should be retained for recreational use, it says.

The council says the report is one of the most important planning documents it has published in recent years. It draws attention to the need for wide public support in view of the Government's decision to establish an urban development corporation for the docklands, which the council opposes, and the designation of part of the Isle of Dogs as one of the new "enterprise zones".

It favours a mixed redevelopment of housing and industry, but will not make any decision until local people have had the opportunity to express their views.

Isle of Dogs 1980. From the public relations officer, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Bernhard Green Town Hall, Patriot Square, London E2 8LN.

After disagreement between management and union representatives over how many copies of the Daily Star should be printed.

The management at Express Newspapers were making no comment yesterday. It is understood that about 500,000 extra copies of the paper will be printed in Manchester and Liverpool.

Neither the Daily Express nor its sister paper, the Daily Star, were published in London yesterday.

Express Newspapers on Tuesday night dismissed Linotype operators for refusing a management instruction to identify individually each piece of copy which they handle, as a check for weekly payment purposes.

Local level talks which were late into Wednesday night were broken off and some employees in the machine room are understood to have been dismissed.

## Council favours mixed building for Isle of Dogs

By Our Planning Reporter

Water access to the West India and Millwall docks should be maintained after their closure by the Port of London Authority. Tower Hamlets Council states in its report published yesterday on the future of the Isle of Dogs.

The report observes that there is evidence of some interest in up-roots port development, and recommends a market study to determine if there is sufficient demand for waterside industry to pay the cost of maintenance and dock charges. In any case, some of the basins should be retained for recreational use, it says.

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Radio 4 lose something like half its audience. We are back to a winner; we are efficient and we are responsive."

The station is the first to be purpose-built for broadcasting in stereo and has been designed to serve the needs of both rural and city areas.

It has a radio car equipped for five broadcasts and a £10,000 microprocessor to supply stored news and information.

Radio 4's slogan is "Your New Neighbour". Mr Michael Chancy, station manager, who was formerly editor of the Today programme on Radio 4, said: "We want our programmes to lean over hedges and harbour walls."

More people were turning to their local stations and away from the main networks, he added. "The lure of the flagship networks is becoming less attractive and we have seen

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## HOME NEWS

## Man to face football affray charge today

The police seeking the killer of Craig French, aged 17, said last night that a Nottingham man would appear in court in Middlesbrough today charged with making an affray.

Mr French, of Redworth, Billingham, Cleveland, died from head injuries he suffered as he was leaving the First Division match between Middlesbrough and Nottingham Forest on Saturday.

Police chief's reply: Mr George Terry, Chief Constable of Sussex and the newly-elected president of the Association of Chief Police Officers, blames big money in football to rhinocerosism. In a letter to *The Times* today, he replies to criticism of police methods at matches by Mr H. E. McGee, chairman of Sheffield Wednesday.

In no way can football clubs and supporters' organizations shed their responsibility and resort to blaming the police for their own shortcomings," he says.

In a letter to *The Times* on Monday, Mr McGee said that people involved in football were concerned about the policy of herding together visiting supporters into small confined of the stadium.

Barred from stadiums: The spectators at Forbury Road, London, yesterday barred Steve Walker, aged 20, of Barking, Essex, from visiting any football ground as a condition of bail. He was remanded until October 9. Three West Ham fellow-supporters were fined a total of £200.

Letters, page 13



Explosion kills woman: Firemen working on the roof of a block of old people's flats damaged by an explosion yesterday. Mrs Mary Doutson, aged 58, was killed and seven people were injured in the blast, which demolished her flat in Paderborn Court, Moor Lane, Bolton. The police said it was

miraculous that more people had not been injured. It was thought that the explosion might have been caused by gas appliances. Firemen from the Moor Lane fire station 200 yards away ran to the council-owned burning flat because the station's appliances were at a road accident.

## As 27th patient recovers, team leader tells why operations were resumed Heart transplants back in favour, surgeon says

By Our Medical Correspondent

Public attitudes to heart transplants have shown a recent "qualifying change" and the initiative for donation of a heart now usually comes from relatives, Mr Terence English, consultant surgeon at Papworth Hospital, near Cambridge, says in an article today in the *British Medical Journal*.

Mr English says he and his colleagues at Cambridge were often asked why they had started to transplant hearts after the operation seemed to have fallen into disfavour. He concedes that after Professor Christian Barnard's pioneering operations in 1967, surgeons throughout the world showed "misplaced enthusiasm" by embarking on heart transplantation without a proper understanding of the complex issues.

Publicity given at that time to some of this personalities and events surrounding the operations had an adverse effect on the public and the medical profession, and by the beginning of 1978 only five units in the

near Cambridge, where the five-hour operation took place on Wednesday said: "His immediate post-operative condition is satisfactory and the new heart is working well."

world were still transplanting hearts.

The Cambridge team decided to enter the field at that time for three reasons. First, the results from the Stanford Medical Centre in California provided convincing evidence that heart transplantation was effective for patients dying from heart disease.

Secondly, the change in public and medical attitudes to brain death had made the process of heart donation much simpler. Thirdly, advances in preserving the heart between its removal and the transplant operation had increased the number of potential donors.

At Cambridge, patients were selected for transplantation after assessment in the hospital

treated they were placed in a special preserving solution at 2°C for transport to Cambridge, usually by air and road. The delay between removal of the heart and the transplant operation averaged two and a half hours.

Seven of the 12 patients treated up until July, 1980, are still alive, Mr English says, and "it has been gratifying to see how critically ill patients can be transformed sometimes within a matter of days".

The number of patients who might possibly benefit from heart transplantation is says, difficult to estimate, but even if only one in every 50 patients younger than 50 years old should die from heart disease proved suitable, that would be a very large number.

The main constraints on the development of heart transplantation were limited funds and the supply of donor organs. Costs could be reduced by combatting rejection, shortening the hospital stay and reducing the risk of complications.

## In brief

## Farewell to the sergeant-major

Mr Raymond Huggins, who retired five months ago after being academy sergeant-major at Sandhurst, yesterday received a five-piece Georgian silver service on an inscribed tray as a farewell gift.

After an informal ceremony in the Ministry of Defence, he said of his working relationship with the corps: "I told them: 'You will call me sir, I will call you sir. The only difference is that you will meet it'."

## Men charged after Notting Hill incident

Roy Bankena, aged 20, a labourer, of London Road, Wembley, and Daniel Larry, aged 25, a plasterer, of Marion Way, Harlesden, both London, were charged yesterday with a total of five offences including obstruction and assault on the police at an incident in Notting Hill, London. They are to appear at Marylebone Magistrates' Court on October 3.

## 110th birthday

Mrs Alice Emleton, who celebrates her 110th birthday tomorrow with a family party at her home in Sawston, Cambridgeshire, hopes that she qualifies for the *Guinness Book of Records* as Britain's oldest woman.

## Teacher threat to discipline, tribunal told

From Our Correspondent

Nottingham

A nursery school mistress who refused to obey her headmistress and continue teaching was underwriting discipline, it was claimed at an industrial tribunal in Nottingham yesterday.

Mr Cyril Cooper, chairman of an education disciplinary committee, was defending Nottingham County Council's decision to dismiss Mrs Eileen Crosbie, now aged 37, the teacher at the centre of a dispute over nursery class sizes.

Mrs Crosbie is claiming unfair dismissal. She was dismissed on April 22 last for breach of contract after she refused to carry out the instructions of Mr Bernard Balles, headmaster of the Robert Melville primary school at Arnold, Nottingham.

Mr David Spicer, for the county council, said they had imposed government ordered staff cuts in local nurseries. Mrs Crosbie's nursery unit of 40 under-fives was reduced to one teacher and one nurse.

The ratio was one adult to 20 children, but Mrs Crosbie maintained that government advice in 1973 recommended a maximum of only 13 nursery children to one teacher. She claimed there was a safety hazard to the children.

The hearing continues today.

## Bank raider's blunder

An armed bank raider who hijacked a taxi was disarmed and arrested within minutes in Hull yesterday when the taxi driver pulled up alongside a policeman.

## Tougher shoe tests

Most new lines of shoes are to be tested before going on sale to a move to strengthen the code of practice operated by the Footwear Distributors' Association.

## More Scouts about

The Scout Association's 1980 census shows membership has increased to 341,261 compared with 338,078 last year.

The hearing continues today.

## LIBERAL ASSEMBLY/BLACKPOOL

## Delegates stand by the Nato commitment as non-nuclear strategy is voted out

The Liberal Party must continue to support Nato and Western collective security, Mr Stephen Rees, MP for the West Riding, and parliamentary spokesman on defence, said yesterday when he opened the defence debate in the Liberal Assembly.

The assembly, in its main motion, reaffirmed its total opposition to an independent British strategic nuclear deterrent and the purchase of Trident missiles.

Before the delegates were three options. A called for a "gradual dismantlement with the removal of all nuclear weapons based in Britain"; B to "commit the party to continue to support Nato and said that general disarmament could be achieved in stages"; C "called for an setting the stage for a non-nuclear defence force and the withdrawal of non-European forces from member territories".

Option A, calling for nuclear and eventually total disarmament, was the preferred to option B by 332 votes to 425, leaving the party still committed to the support of Nato.

Mr Ross said the Liberal tradition of "a call for a crusade of disarmament" had been restored. He acknowledged that there had always been a strong body of pacifist opinion within the party. He admired the pacifists' strength of conviction, but pointed out that the party had not always embraced those views, abandoning our security or our international obligations to others.

It had long been the party's policy to reject the concept of an independent nuclear deterrent. The cost of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's Trident programme would be at least £5,000m for a mere four submarines.

It will strain our other spending, defence and foreign, to maintain a nuclear deterrent and conventional defence spending upon which there is at this very moment a total moratorium," he said. "It is nonsensical, misdirected, and a further incitement to war, to base our defence on a nuclear-free crusade."

Mr Ross' speech was well received, but he was not the only one to support Nato and multilateral disarmament as the most effective defence policy for peace. It was the best way of maintaining world security, and providing a framework for a continuing international control.

Such a move would not pre-empt an alliance of equals with the United States or anyone else, but it would give Britain the freedom and security of knowing that its defence policy was in the right hands.

Such support could not be guaranteed for another two years, and it would be madness to base a defence strategy on it," he said.

Option C, with a "crusade of disarmament", was preferred to option A by 332 votes to 425, leaving the party still committed to the support of Nato.

Mr Stephen Rees, political vice-chairman of the Young Liberals, supporting option A, said Britain's membership of Nato, where defence expenditure was to rise to 3 per cent a year, was "a sensible few years" to contribute to the development of a European defence force.

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wives since 1945. He said: "What guarantee is there that the pacifists of self-interested nuclear experts will be any more forthcoming in 1980 than those of their predecessors who have claimed over the centuries that the invention of gunpowder, the 'dreadnought', the 'posh' bomber would end the possibility of war?"

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## WEST EUROPE

## Premier accused of breaking election law

Lisbon, Sept. 11.—The National Electoral Commission has charged Dr. Francisco Sá Carneiro, the Portuguese Prime Minister, with a breach of electoral law, for which he could face a two-year prison sentence if found guilty.

The commission decided yesterday that the Prime Minister used an official television broadcast last month for electoral ends, and recommended the state prosecutor, said, bring criminal proceedings against him.

The commission is a committee of party and government representatives responsible for supervising the October 5 general elections.

In his broadcast on August 14, Dr. Sá Carneiro read a statement approved by the Cabinet, denying Communist accusations that he owes £250,000 to the national banking system.

A left-wing majority on the National Electoral Commission yesterday approved a "Communist motion" calling for the Prime Minister to be put on trial over the broadcast.

The ruling right-wing Democratic Alliance said today that it in turn was investigating criminal proceedings against the Communists. Party for slender, The Prime Minister to address the national television in a "normal" night after his return from a tour to Dublin.

In another electoral squabble, Major Otelo Saraiva de Carvalho today protested over the Government's refusal to overturn two court decisions banning his extreme left-wing party from contesting the general elections in half the country.

He described as absurd a legal situation in which two regional appeal courts accepted his lists of parliamentary candidates, delivered a day late, and two refused. Major Otelo is a candidate in next December's presidential election.—Reuter.

## Army's big Nato exercise gets under way

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

Some 22 military convoys will rumble through the dark towards Britain's ports and airfields tonight to begin the most important phase of Crusader 80, the Army's most imposing Nato exercise for 30 years.

They will carry the first of 18,000 members of the Territorial Army who are on their way this weekend to reinforce the British Army of the Rhine (BAOR). The objective is to test how quickly and efficiently Britain can reinforce BAOR's 1st British Corps in a crisis, and how well part-time, reservists drafted so suddenly across the Channel, might perform in battle.

Spearpoint, the final battle phase of Crusader 80 will start towards the middle of next week, by which time about 30,000 troops and 12,500 vehicles, the equivalent of more than two divisions, will have reinforced BAOR.

Crusader 80 is one of 25 exercises of the annual Autumn Forge series held by Nato.



Herr Strauss accepting a gift as a good-luck present when his Christian Democratic allies gave him a monster birthday-party in Bonn yesterday.

## Political allies fête Herr Strauss with bonhomie but scant affection

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Sept. 31.

They laid on wine and music, flowers and presents, speeches and VIPs. But despite all their efforts to be cordial, the true feelings among the Opposition rose perturbingly close to the surface as the Christian Democratics wished Herr Franz Josef Strauss a happy birthday through what seemed like slightly clenched teeth.

The Germans make a big fuss about any birthday, and those of round numbers like 50, 55 and 65 call for celebrations and the kind of eulogies from friends that most Britons get only at their funerals.

But when one is the Prime Minister of Bavaria, leader of the Christian Social Union, and

Chancellor-candidate in the midist of an election campaign, sixty-fifth birthday celebrations go for a whole week.

Herr Strauss' birthday began with a serenade by a Burndeswehr band and a rifle salute from a knee-breeched Alpine horsemanship in Munich last Saturday. The reception, tributes, handshakes, gifts, all in toasts will culminate with a big party gathering next Saturday.

But one occasion, Herr Strauss' will want to forget quickly was the effort by the Christian Democratic Union, the sisterparty, in Bonn today.

The cream of Bonn's political, diplomatic, governmental and journalistic circles were summoned shoulder to shoulder in the stifling hall of the CDU-party

headquarters, while at one end of the room an invisible Herr Helmut Kohl, the CDU chairman, droned out a speech in praise of Herr Strauss which lacked conviction.

Herr Kohl, who had been ruthlessly ousted by Herr Strauss as Chancellor-candidate and who could well replace him in the expected election defeat, noted that at Herr Strauss' age such an election campaign was a considerable physical and mental strain.

Herr Kohl is only 50.

In his rich, rolling Bavarian tones an equally invisible Herr Strauss thanked Herr Kohl for his tribute. "I know it must have been difficult for him", he remarked.

## Attacks dismay French apple men

From Robin Young, Maisons-Laffitte, France

Sept. 31.

French apple growers are shocked and dismayed at the attacks in Britain against their exports. The salved market exports, received by French marketing cooperatives yesterday of "every number, everywhere" and "demand much subtended by the violent campaign against French apples."

French exports to Britain, mainly of "Golden Delicious", have exceeded British production in the past three years and represent four-fifths of all dessert apples consumed there. Britain remains easily the most important customer for French exports, though France is opening new markets in the Middle and Far East, as well as in Europe and America.

M. Charles Gallez, president of the apple section of the

French producer organization, showing British journalists round his own orchard in the banks of the Tarn, outside Toulouse, claimed that French growers were being misrepresented and maligned in the British press.

"We sell our apples where we can get the best price. For our smaller apples, the two markets are Britain and Scandinavia. It is only the price which decides whether the lorries go to London, Oslo or Copenhagen."

M. Gallez pointed out that British demand for apples far outstrips local supply, and that Britain still eat only 10 kilograms of apples per head a year, while the French average is 27 and the Germans 21.

"All experts agree that British standards of life will improve in the 1980s, which means they will eat more apples. There should be room for

everyone."

The French have also produced figures to show that wholesale prices in Britain are consistently higher for French apples than for the cheapest British varieties. British retailers accept lower margins on French apples, they claim because they are easier to sell and can be consistently supplied in the large quantities which supermarkets require.

If I were president of the British apple growers", M. Gallez said, "I would be encouraging my members to renew their orchards, improve their marketing, and if necessary to lobby the British Government to provide the means by which we could catch up with our competitors."

"Political declarations in the press do not fill people's stomachs or pockets. What matters is the technique and the production."

French see the sunnier side of Mrs Thatcher

By Our Political Reporter

French television viewers saw Mrs Margaret Thatcher in a different mood last night from her last appearance, when her abrasiveness in putting forward Britain's point of view on contributions was too much for everyone."

She talked last night about partnership and common interests in an interview on the weekly current affairs programme *L'Evenement*. At the end she complained that her interviewers had emphasized differences. "Britain and France have been through too much together for that", she said. "I will not allow you to quarrel with me."

The common agricultural policy would have to be looked at because it was ridiculous to spend 75 per cent of the income of the Community on agricultural policy and a lot of it on surpluses, she said.

"We shall have to get the budget arrangement right, but more and more we must pull and keep together as democracies. This has always been the thing that has motivated Britain's entrance into Europe."

Beyond the Iron Curtain nations were not necessarily voluntary, grouped together. "If we free Europeans cannot group together and work together voluntarily, then it augurs ill for the future of democracy."

Mrs Thatcher agreed to the television interview as a preparation for her visit to France at the end of next week, and she was free in her comments about France's economic and industrial performance.

Discussing the problems facing Britain, Mrs Thatcher said that the world was facing a recession but Britain had difficulties on top of that. There was a tendency to resist change in Britain and to use subsidies as substitutes for change.

Questioned about the East-West crisis and the chances for success at the European Security Conference in Madrid, the Prime Minister said that danger was always present unless the West looked to its defences. The Soviet Union was expansionist and increasing its expenditure on defence.

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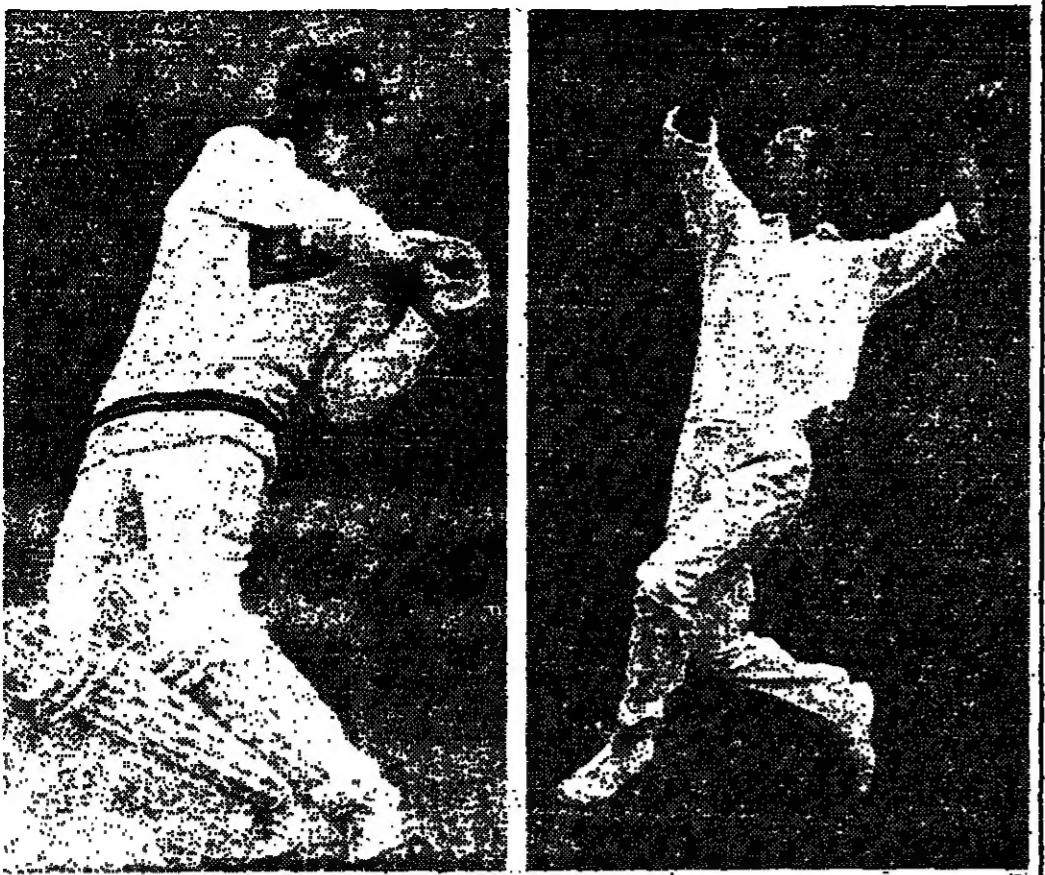






## SPORT

## Cricket



Larkins (left) and Underwood: could fill batting and bowling vacancies next winter.

## Line and length needed more than sheer speed in West Indies

By John Woodcock  
Cricket Correspondent

When those whose job it is to choose the England side to tour West Indies this winter meet at Lord's on Monday, their main concern will be to find an attack with even an outside chance of keeping England in the series. The party will be picked by the four England selectors—Messrs Bedser, Barrington, Close and Eddery, along with the captain (Mr. Rotham), the manager (A. C. Smith), the chairman of the cricket committee of the Test and County Cricket Board (P. B. H. May) and the chairman of the Cricket Council (C. H. Palmer), or his representative.

England will never have left for an international tour with a much thinner attack than the one that will fly to Barbados on January 15. It is an unpromising outlook, and yet it is at times like these that we are most pleasantly surprised. The best bowlers aside from myself did not bowl well in Barbados; and he is not as tall as one would like for West Indies, and he is strong, and good judges speak very highly of him. Miller as batsman is the likeliest choice, I think.

The spinners now, I hope three of them, Emburey is a certainty and I would prefer Miller to Willey, whose bowling, except in the one-day, is negligible. The last two spinners, however, to remain are Bardsley and Downton and I have no idea who might other than myself be.

There is one other important selection—which needs to be made, namely that of a cricketing manager to assist Alan Smith.

With the exception of the last two years, Tavaré, who is the best batsman in the West Indies, has not been available to play for the West Indies in Test matches since 1958-59. There was Statham, Truman, Tyson, Lander and Bailey, to bowl at medium pace or above, and Laker, Lock and Mortimer to provide the spin. Yet in the five Test matches they played, four were lost and one drawn.

In other years bowlers of much less distinction, by observing the basic essentials of line and length have surpassed themselves. My guess is that the selectors would be more likely to take with them a bowler for the sake of it but to take the best bowlers available; in other words, to plump for an extra spinner, so long as he is a good bowler, rather than an extra spinner because he is a good bowler.

Hendrick's withdrawal, to organize his benefit, is a blow.

There are also doubts about the fitness of Dilley and Willis, as well, and the selectors would be

more likely to take with them a bowler for the sake of it but to take the best bowlers available; in other words, to plump for an extra spinner, so long as he is a good bowler, rather than an extra spinner because he is a good bowler.

As a good player of speed and a left-hander, Alan Butcher has had a good season, and he is the holiday from July to September.

Palmer, the son of the former Somers and England player, Ken Palmer, who is now a Test match umpire, is an all-round and a good batsman, and he would be a good buy.

As for the bowlers, I would

choose Tavaré, who showed in his two Test matches this summer that he is not to be frightened out.

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holds the  
allbound



When Mr Oldfield refused our offer of a new double bass, we pulled all the strings to repair his old one.

On the morning of 29th April 1978, Paul Oldfield arrived at Birmingham Town Hall, took out his double bass and proceeded to pluck and bow his way through Schubert's Trout.

With the promise of an audition with the Royal Philharmonic a mere 3 weeks away, he needed to be note perfect.

After practising for some hours, Mr Oldfield decided to break for lunch. And, having tucked up his bass, he locked it in his rehearsal room.

Out of harm's way. Or so he thought.

As fate would have it, in his absence, and without warning, the central heating system went quietly berserk.

With the result that Mr Oldfield returned to find his double bass half-baked.

The heat had fried the resin, warped the wood and shrivelled the strings.

Three days later, the claim arrived at our local branch of Commercial Union.

At which point we decided the simplest, speediest solution would be to replace Mr Oldfield's double bass with a new one.

Mr Oldfield, however, thought different. And said so, in writing:

"To be without one's normal instrument can actually affect one's peace of mind like a major emotional upheaval."

Since Mr Oldfield's "normal instrument" was clearly of more value to him than any replacement we might offer, we immediately agreed to organise repairs.

We made and paid for all the arrangements to take Mr Oldfield and his bass to London, where we tracked down the experts to see to the damage.

The following week we covered the cost of his return journey and that of his double bass. Which, we hasten to add, had been lovingly restored to its former glory.

Again at our own expense.

In time and in tune for the Royal Philharmonic.

Though we can't always promise to sort out a claim with such speed and so little fuss, at times when it would be so much easier to put a problem to the bottom of the pile, we're still more likely to put ourselves out.



Whether we're recovering the loss of a wedding ring or an oil rig, the principle's the same.

You see, we don't just look after bass players. We have many more strings to our bow.

We won't make a drama out of a crisis.

A secret meeting to be held shortly may change the policy of the Ulster Defence Association

## The search for a non-violent Irish answer

Sixty prominent members of the Ulster Defence Association, Northern Ireland's biggest paramilitary force, will gather in secret session in Belfast soon to undertake an extensive review of the organization's future direction.

One key issue, confronting the conference, is the relationship between those who advocate a policy of violence first, politics second, and those who want the organization to develop principally as a political pressure group.

Three years ago the UDA, founded in 1971, as a coordinating body for various Protestant vigilante groups, made an important decision to oppose indiscriminate violence against Roman Catholics. It has since recommended a policy of selective assassination of "enemies", targets such as IRA activists but insists that the organization itself has stopped all killings.

There exists, however, a group founded in 1972 by UDA members called the Ulster Freedom Fighters, a proscribed body of perhaps 150 men who kill Republicans who have been identified (sometimes incorrectly it appears) with violence against Protestants. "The best defence against the terrorist, somebody close to the UFF remarked, "is terrorism."

Members of the UFF support in principle the main political platform of the Ulster Defence Association, that of an independent Northern Ireland. They do not believe, however, that any political progress can be achieved while the IRA wages its campaign of terror. This difference



Protestant independence leader, Rev Glen Barr (right); and the Rev Ian Paisley—a warning influence since the strike of 1974.

of approach will be examined at the Belfast conference.

It is not generally understood that the UDA, which claims a membership of 15,000, is no longer loyal to the Union; it is not a "loyalist" organization in the accepted sense.

It is clear, however, that the UDA's policy of an independent Ulster, free of what it regards as the overtness of Dublin and the lukewarm attachment of the British, has not so far fired the imagination of a significant number of

IRA members.

The association, which is not affiliated to the UDA, was created to promote the idea of an independent Ulster among

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"loyalists". There is equally no sign of great enthusiasm in Roman Catholic quarters.

The UDA's policy envisages Roman Catholics and Protestants coming together in an Ulster identity of their own.

The organization's political wing, the New Ulster Political Research Group, is pursuing the idea with zeal and soon a decision will be taken whether to test public support for an independent Ulster in the local council elections next May.

There is a strong and growing body of opinion within the UDA that wants the organization to concentrate principally on community politics, to build up a credible political base from which the theme of an independent Ulster can be promoted.

The quest for a clear political identity began in earnest in the soul searching that followed the abortive "loyalist" strike in May 1977. The UDA's involvement was largely a result of the persuasive influence of the Rev Ian Paisley, one of the main strike leaders.

The UDA, though it was split and since then relations with Mr Paisley have been broken at a minimum.

Besides the New Ulster Political Research Group there is an organization entitled the Independence for Northern Ireland Association formed by various people interested in an independent Ulster; both groups are headed by Mr Glen Barr, who had a key role in the 1974 strike.

The association, which is not affiliated to the UDA, was created to promote the idea of an independent Ulster among

people who would not wish to be associated with an organization connected with the UDA.

Last March the Research Group issued its first policy document entitled Beyond the Religious Divide, which spelled out the case for an independent Ulster.

It said the continuing parvenu of Dublin and London perpetuated the constitutional divisions between that people. "Negotiated independence" is the only hope of achieving a united Northern Ireland, it asserted.

The document, which is being expanded and updated, claimed that independence would offer first-class Ulster citizenship to all. The Protestant of Northern Ireland was looked on as a second-class citizen in Britain and the Roman Catholic of Northern Ireland was regarded in Southern Ireland as a second-class citizen.

The document is laced with declarations of moderation and compromise, which to many people who remember the UDA's history might come as a surprise. The UDA is certainly going through a period of significant change, it will be seen.

The document attempts to clarify the relationship between its political and paramilitary wings.

What is not in doubt, however, is that many guns remain in the bottom drawers of many present and past members of the UDA, ready to be used in the defence of Protestant areas should IRA attacks become intolerable.

Christopher Thomas



## Now! caught in the ups and downs of the weeklies

Today *Now!* is one year old. Sir James Goldsmith's glossy news magazine set out last September to 'woot' the readers of *Time Out*, the *New Statesman*, *Time* and *Newsweek*, with its handsome and expensive blend of "authoritative and informative world coverage", in-depth documentaries, and a "crispy guide to the week's entertainments". It has not exactly succeeded, the circulation figures for most of its rivals have grown in the past year. But nor has it failed, though still far from its goal of selling a quarter of a million copies, and constantly mocked by *Private Eye*, the circulation of *Now!* according to its figures also out this week, is 135,459—more, in fact, than those of *Time Out* and the *New Statesman* together.

The declining readers might well have simply left part of a wider collapse of weeklies, as readers turned viewers. It was not. The sixties saw *Punch* at a peak of 124,079, the arrival of *Out*, and the impressive rise in the fortunes of *The Economist*, and in 1970 *Newsman* was able to check the dwindling readership.

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Two years ago, Anthony Howard, former editor of the *New Statesman* and now that of *The Listener*, predicted the gradual demise of the political weekly. "The truth is free," he wrote. "It is that the age of the political weekly, as it has been understood in Britain over the past half century, is drawing peacefully to its close." His article, which appeared in *The Times*, provoked a tumble of protest. The editor of *Newsweek* wrote hurriedly and details of "healthy circulation figures" were added. "Under Chancellor," said *The Spectator*, "it was understood that the party would be the one to play any further substantive part in British politics, would the same join the Liberals?"

The paradox for the Liberals is that the "end of these developments" would present them with new opportunities but, fewer problems. The infusion of new blood would be valuable.

A substantial social democratic breakaway on the left, would offer the hope of breaking the pattern of the one-party system, without which the Liberals are never likely to get anywhere.

If that breakaway were to be successful, it would probably require the Liberals to help with an electoral pact as well as to cooperate in Parliament after the election. That is the direction in which Mr Steel is consistently nudging his party, but it is encountering strong opposition.

The question remains hypothetical at this stage. But if the opportunity does present itself, would the Liberals take it? My own guess is that Mr Steel would want an electoral pact with any centre party that was set up, but would probably be unable to secure one for a group that seemed to be little more than "Mr Jenkins and friends".

If there was a more substantial centre party, Mr Steel would, I suspect, manage with difficulty to get an electoral pact endorsed by the party conference, but would then be unable to enforce it properly at local level. In that case, an effective liaison would be blocked, not by the attachment of Liberals to their beliefs but by their attachment to themselves.

That would form the nucleus of a potentially significant political force. They would find it easier to attract Labour dissenters, and hold the votes of erstwhile Labour supporters, which would be essential if the social democrats were to be able to secure seats in Parliament. If they did not rush immediately into the arms of the Liberals.

But if there is not a breakaway from the present Parliamentary Labour party, it would only if there is a breakaway from the present Parliamentary Labour party. That will depend in the first instance on the outcome of the Labour party conference at the end of this month. If the gang of three as they are termed—Dr David Steel, Mr William Rodgers and Mrs Shirley Williams—were to leave Labour, they might well take with them half a dozen or so sitting Labour MPs, perhaps more, according to the circumstances of the break.

Both Liberals and social democrats are attached to the European community, favour an incomes policy, prefer decentralization and a smaller role for government, yet have a tendency to turn to government for practical solutions to particular problems—as the conference debate on unemployment demonstrated.

But there is nothing in this list that is both new and pre-emptive. The Liberals have no shortage of individual policies, nor of cranky ideas. But there is no substantial Liberal programme agreed to by all members, to which any potential collaborator must therefore adhere. Nor indeed, are

there any golden-age writers, like Bruce Page, to expose theirism and socialist economics, nor very distinguished Fabian weekly, such as *Today*, to carry on its traditions.

In fact the poster boy in reading of all sorts has been kindred to the serious weeklies.

In 1950 *Newsman* was published weekly, with circulation of one million. *Picture Post*, *Everybody's Magazine*, and *John Bull*, in 1960 all except *John Bull*, which was discontinued, had been replaced as

*Today* had vanished.

Average weekly circulation, thousand of each year.

1960 1970 1977 1978 1979

Economist 123,228 185,404 340,037 104,551 1

Time 35,552 58,740 41,405 48,516 101

New Statesman 42,758 55,359 40,382 77,538 100

Spectator 14,280 15,551 12,486 12,486 42

## MOSCOW DIARY

through the huddled masses, down a long corridor until you come to a door marked "In tourist". It is generally locked, but if you bang or wave a woman in blue will open it and ask for your passport (no foreigner should go anywhere in the Soviet Union without one).

In addition there is an enormous rush at the end of August before the new academic year begins. People return, or try to, in their thousands. Flights are booked up months in advance. When the rush coincides with fog, as it did on Monday, you have a recipe for confusion.

It is difficult to get information about many things in the Soviet Union and reliable information about flights is virtually impossible. If you can get through by phone to the inquiry bureau, you may be told a departure time. But the chances are that if you ring again you will get a different time. Most Russians never bother to phone but go to the airport and just wait; a day, a night, two days if necessary.

Domodedovo is pre-computer age. There are none of those press button check-in keyholes as they now are at Moscow's new international airport. Instead women write everything by hand if it's duplicate on huge lists.

As a foreigner, you have privileged treatment at the airport. You push your way through the huddled masses, double its capacity in the coming five years.

The problem is that Aeroflot, the Soviet airline, has the largest internal network in the world, carrying 100 million people a year; so when things go wrong, they go wrong in a big way. Often it is the weather, fog in November and snowstorms in late winter.

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## "Would you buy a Rembrandt for its canvas?" I asked.

An acquaintance remarked that, at £1,770, the Royal Oak stainless steel watch by Audemars Piguet was more expensive than most gold watches.

Which was perhaps missing the point. The value of the Royal Oak is more a consequence of the way the metal has been used, the design reflecting its strength and character, than the material itself.

In any sphere of artistry and craftsmanship, as I pointed out to my friend, materials alone do not make a masterpiece. What matters is the way they're used.

And who uses them.

THE TIMES

New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## LIBERALS TACKLE DEFENCE

Nuclear disarmament is by tradition the issue that tears Labour apart, but yesterday it provided the most "spirited" debate that there has been on the floor of the Liberal conference. This was a further indication of how the question of peace has come back to the fore-front of British politics. Last week at the LDC the issue was fudged with a compromise resolution which conceded "much ground" to the unilateralist nuclear disarmers, while being couched in sufficiently imprecise terms to enable it to be supported by multilateralists and unilateralists alike. It was a sign of the resurgence of unilateralist feeling that it was necessary to resort to such a stratagem. At the Labour conference, at the end of the month, the defence debate is expected to be one of the most heated and divisive.

The Liberals showed yesterday that it is not only members of the Labour Party who are exercised by the issue. In the end the conference passed a motion that in effect reaffirmed existing Liberal defence policy, but not before a good deal of anxiety had been caused to the leadership. The straightforward unilateralist option calling for Britain's immediate withdrawal from NATO was defeated comfortably though the majority vote was not insignificant. The margin of victory was more narrow, though, over the European option.

Whether Britain withdraws from NATO or not, such a demand would hardly strengthen the credibility of American nuclear protection for Europe—and a non-nuclear Europe would be in no position to defend itself. This resolution therefore had neutralist implications for the medium term, without itself being specifically neutralist. For the longer term it looked forward to a united

and neutral Europe after the "decolonization of Eastern Europe." That proposition could be defended on the grounds that it does not matter because it is such a distant prospect. But when Soviet "control" over Eastern Europe is removed—and it cannot last for ever—that will not mean that the West no longer needs to protect itself against the Soviet Union.

It was significant that an option with such implications could attract a large body of support at the Liberal conference, even though it was defeated. The party leadership remains firmly in control of British defence policy. Mr Steel can maintain not only his opposition to Trident, but also his support for "Cruise" missiles being sited in Britain. Two of his parliamentary colleagues, however, were clearly supporting the opposition to the leadership in the debate yesterday, and there were many delegates who remain unconvinced of the merits of the basic defence policy which all British governments have pursued for 30 years. That is revealing both of the present state of the Liberal party and of a wider section of public opinion. It looks increasingly as if the great battle over defence policy, which was won twenty years ago will have to be fought all over again.

Yours faithfully,  
G. W. R. TERRY,  
ACPO Office,  
New Scotland Yard,  
London, SW1.

## Policing-football matches

From Mr R. C. Lane

Sir, Any attempt at patriation of the British North America Act by unilateral request of the Canadian Government (leading article, September 9) could easily backfire.

A fact of which Mr Trudeau, a former professor of constitutional law, is not unaware. While it is true that constitutional convention dictates that Westminster will enact any amendment to that Act duly requested by a joint address of both Houses of Parliament in Ottawa, it is also true that every amendment so secured since confederation that alters the distribution of legislative powers has had the unanimous consent of the provincial governments, and this latter practice has quite likely hardened into equally binding convention.

To preserve the peace, to minimize disturbance, and to make possible the spectator enjoyment for the majority, a local agreement, related to the layout of individual grounds, has complicated the constitution that segregation is the most effective way of avoiding conflict.

Regrettably the financial orientation of professional soccer in the root cause of all the current problems and the sporting aspect has been considerably diminished.

The chief constables of the country are currently looking and have for some years looked continuously at solutions to this growing problem within present-day society and liaised fully with local football clubs. The latest developments are the process of a new finalization, when it is hoped consultation will take place with all levels within football administration.

In the meantime, policing methods will aim at avoiding conflicts, which cannot be achieved by mixing together all elements and cramming the maximum into grounds, regardless of the so-called realities of the varying factors.

Yours faithfully,  
R. C. LANE,  
Charlton Football Club,  
London, SE7.

## Canada's federal problems

From Mr Ernest S. Watkins, QC

Sir, Being in England on vacation, I read your leader on Canada's federal problems (September 9) rather hurriedly. I otherwise would have done, and I would like to take the chance to amplify a little your so well balanced views from the point of view of an Alberta. Quebec's resistance to the federal government has been thought of as based on language and culture, Alberta's as based purely on economic considerations. Both are over-simplifications.

Albertans believe that their province owns the bulk of its natural resources and that this ownership is an integral part of the existing federation. They also believe that as owners they have the right to decide what shall be sold, to whom and at what price. They now face the real possibility that the federal government will impose and collect an export tax on oil and natural gas for its own benefit to help meet a deficit it is reluctant to cut by reduced spending. At the same time they are confronted with a statement by the Prime Minister

that he will ask the British Government to "patriate" the British North America Act and by doing so empower a majority in the Federal Parliament to rewrite the Canadian constitution as it wills. As you say, that is the embarrassing position Mr Trudeau is attempting to impose on the British Government.

This, I believe, raises another constitutional question that I would suggest has not been sufficiently discussed. It is: has the United Kingdom still the right to pass legislation that is intended to, and will adversely affect the rights of resource-owning provinces in Canada? Or is it that the term "sovereignty" once given, will, in fact, be given to the former dominions. Canada included, can a provision in a statute passed in 1867 (when Canada was a colony) be used to justify what would otherwise be interference by Britain in the internal affairs of another sovereign state?

Certainly Britain has purported to amend the BNA Act since the Statute of Westminster was passed, but has not that been the use of a legal fiction, effective only because all those involved were prepared to accept what was being done?

The Canadian Constitution today resembles the legal concept of a tenancy in common in land. All must agree before there can be any change. As you say, a constitutional act of creative statesmanship is needed. The danger is that Mr Trudeau and those around him seem unaware that this challenge exists. Yours faithfully,

ERNEST S. WATKINS,  
(Chairman, Alberta Crimes  
Compensation Board),  
Apartment 606,  
104 26th Avenue, South West,  
Calgary, Alberta,  
Canada.

## TURKEY'S POLITICAL CAULDRON

If military coups were cyclical, Turkey would be due for one any time now. Twenty years ago, in 1960, the Turkish army moved to bring order out of national chaos, before handing power back to the civilians. Ten years later the generals intervened again to give Turkey a strong and credible government. Since then a succession of Turkish governments have presided over the mismanagement of Turkey's affairs, the latest being the minority administration of Mr Suleiman Demirel's conservative Justice Party, now nine months old.

The question is whether the present horrifying level of violence in Turkey is likely to make the army want to intervene once more. So far this year over 1,500 people have died in political fighting, a third of whom in the past two months. This is civil war to all but some. Last week the chief of the General Staff, General Kenan Evren, described this, accurately, as a state of "fear and anarchy." "Everyone speaks for national unity," General Evren remarked, "but unfortunately, everyone fails to bring it about."

On balance it seems likely that the army, having experienced the problems of running Turkey twice before, will be less than keen to shoulder the burden again unless forced to do so. Certainly the web of violence in Turkey is so complex as to deft simple solutions, including military ones. With the central authority of the state apparently inert, rival groups on the extreme right and extreme left have proliferated, taking to the streets and exercising the rule of the gun.

According to some estimates there are between fifty and sixty different left-wing terrorist groups, most of which spend as much time shooting at each other as at extremists of the right. The picture is further complicated by

## ANYONE FOR WESTMINSTER?

settled by the speed and brevity of the Prime Minister's reply to his request for a recall of Parliament. Mr Callaghan has put it in again. He wants "the grand issues of the nation" to examine unemployment and the state of the economy. No need, says Mrs Thatcher. When the Commons debated the matter in July it was known unemployment would go on rising, and, to no one's Labour did not think it necessary to recall Parliament in the summer of 1975, concerning which some comparable statistic as been dug up. Not so, says Mr Callaghan in turn. The numbers of work have grown more rapidly than numbers indicated in July, the money supply figures have gone into a spin.

His island race

From Air Marshal Sir John Lapsley, and others

The recent White Paper (Cmnd 87) confers second-class citizenship on several hundred Falkland Islanders who do not have grandparents who were born in the United Kingdom, but whose pure British nationality extends unknown since the early nineteenth century, when the islands were first settled.

Whilst understanding the Home Office need for caution over other dependent territories, we believe the case for Falkland Islanders is the same. Apart from being of the United Kingdom stock and owing intense loyalty to her Majesty the Queen, there are four fundamental differences:

There was no indigenous population when the islands were first settled.

Islanders have no "homeland" except the United Kingdom.

There is no question of the islands seeking independence. The original service pensioner

the Government was a joint one by the moderately socialist Republican Peoples Party, led by the former Prime Minister, Mr Bülent Ecevit and the more extreme left wing National Salvation Party of Mr Necmettin Erbakan. Whereas the outgoing Foreign Minister had been a strong supporter of NATO and had urged a Turkish rapprochement with Greece, Mr Ecevit and Mr Erbakan are in differing degrees less enamoured of the Western alliance. Mr Erbakan indeed, is a fundamentalist Muslim and strongly anti-Western in outlook.

The prospect of a return to power by Mr Ecevit, supported by left wing Muslims, would offer little comfort to the Turkish people who were less than impressed by Mr Ecevit's last term in office, and would be even less impressed if he had to depend on Mr Erbakan. The main problem for Mr Demirel, on the other hand is that he too is dependent on the present National Assembly on the support of another extreme political grouping, this time on the right. The Nationalist Action Party, led by former Army colonel Alparslan Turkez, is in a position to bring down Mr Demirel at any time, and in July very nearly did so.

This has unfortunately laid Mr Demirel open to the charge that he tolerates right-wing terrorists, who tend to be better organized than the left in the current round of violence. The last role army officers could play at the moment would be to help the Prime Minister to restrain terrorists on both right and left and re-assert the central authority so sorely lacking. Bevoid that they could try to get Mr Demirel and Mr Ecevit who after all both head moderate mainstream parties, to stick their personal differences. Banging heads together, metaphorically is better than breaking them on the street.

Labour are even, in this duel over the sleeping body of Parliament, a month ahead of time, even granted the gravity of the matter mentioned.

The conference season is upon us, and this exchange between party leaders has the appearance of setting shots for the barrage that is about to descend. As the shrapnel whistles overhead—U-turn, Friedman, back to the thirties, game of three IMF, monetarism, three million in industrial deserts, Trots, wets, Reds, hawks, Bourbons, Ben-jaundiced citizens will keep their heads below the parapet. It is well for the House of Commons too to be out of the way. Its hour will come when the din has subsided and winter approaches with a long hard look.

settlers were promised the right to retain full British citizenship.

Falkland Islanders are British and should be given the full rights of British citizenship with rights of entry and abode in their own country.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN H. LAPSLAY,

PATRICK VINCENT,

The Falkland Islands Office,

2 Greycoat Place, SW1.

September 7.

Church unity

From Sir Anthony Buzzard

Sir, Brian Corns (September 3) is right to point out that the differences between Roman Catholicism and evangelical Christianity are vast and fundamental. For example, how far would evangelicals be able to endorse the following statement appearing recently in a Roman Catholic newspaper? "The Blessed Virgin Mary was gloriously assumed into heaven with soul and body, and was crowned queen of heaven and earth."

Yours faithfully,  
ANTHONY BUZZARD,  
Robin Hill,  
American Road,  
Oxford St, Gile,  
Buckinghamshire,  
September 4.

## Government and consent

From Mr Brian Mitchell

Sir, Monetarist theory is pushing a lot of people into the scrabbles of unemployment. Is a little piece of R. E. Tawney's logic worth recalling?

Professor Tawney wrote in *Religion and the Rise of Capitalism*: "Economic efficiency is a necessary element in the life of any sane and vigorous society, and only the incorrigible sentimentalists will depreciate its significance. But to convert efficiency from an instrument into a primary object is to destroy efficiency itself. For the condition of effective action in a complex civilization is cooperation."

How can those who have no jobs and want jobs (many of them people who have produced what we sell) be expected to cooperate

in our breakfast-television society when, in the name of efficiency, they have been rejected?

Yours faithfully,

BRIAN MITCHELL,

238 Bush Road,

East Peckham,

Tonbridge, Kent.

## The shrinking shirts

From Mr John Gillard Watson

Sir, When I recently had some old shirts, not worn for many years, made fit for current wear by having collars attached to them, I was surprised to note their length. They measure, in fact, 36 inches from the back of the collar to the tail. More recent purchases measure only 32 inches, while the most recent—and much the most expensive—have shrunk to a mere 28 inches.

It seems that shirt manufacturers are about to approximate men's shirts to women's blouses.

Will the impending unisex garment disappear altogether by, say, the turn of the century?

Yours etc,

JOHN GILLARD WATSON,

32 Beech Croft Road,

Oxford.

in our breakfast-television society when, in the name of efficiency, they have been rejected?

Yours faithfully,

JOHN GILLARD WATSON,

32 Beech Croft Road,

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## The case for a centre party

From Mr R. S. Rountree

Sir, The conjunction of the perspective summary by Mr Ian Bradley of the present strands of thought in the Liberal Party and the report of the survey on the state of national morale, both of which you publish today (September 10), has made at least one life-long Liberal wonder whether the Liberal Party is any more able to meet the challenge of our national situation than is the Labour Party. There may be a time for semantic concern as in the differences between social democrats and Liberals, but it is most emphatically not now when we are perhaps nearing the last opportunity for a peaceful adjustment of political alignments that have manifestly failed the nation.

Albertans believe that their province owns the bulk of its natural resources and that this ownership is an integral part of the existing federation. They also believe that as owners they have the right to decide what shall be sold, to whom and at what price. They now face the real possibility that the federal government will impose and collect an export tax on oil and natural gas for its own benefit to help meet a deficit it is reluctant to cut by reduced spending. At the same time they are confronted with a statement by the Prime Minister

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Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD S. ROUNTREE,  
Kingthorpe,  
Pickering,  
North Yorkshire.

September 10.

## Belgium remembers

From Lieutenant-Colonel B. F. Montgomery

Sir, In Brussels, on September 7, I was fortunate enough to attend the unveiling of the Montgomery statue in Monty Square.

On behalf of my family I should be grateful for an opportunity, in the columns of *The Times*, to express my warmest thanks to all the Belgian authorities involved for this signal honour paid to my brother.

The statue of a famous British soldier, erected at the request of Belgians in Belgium's capital city, is not only a distinction of the British order; equally significant, I believe, it expresses and reflects the close bonds of friendship and alliance between our two countries.

At noon, when the statue (the work of Oscar Nemon) was unveiled by the Prime Minister of Belgium and the British Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe, the Belgian national standard was lowered in salute. The effect of this unveiling on its watchers was immediate and dramatic, and I heard the gasp of wonder and acclaim: for it was as if, suddenly, Monty had returned to Brussels.

There he stands, in his familiar beret, from a distance, dominating the square that bears his name, facing the long broad avenue that culminates in the high statue of Leopold I, the first King of the Belgians.

The ceremony will surely live in the memories of the thousands who gathered to witness it.

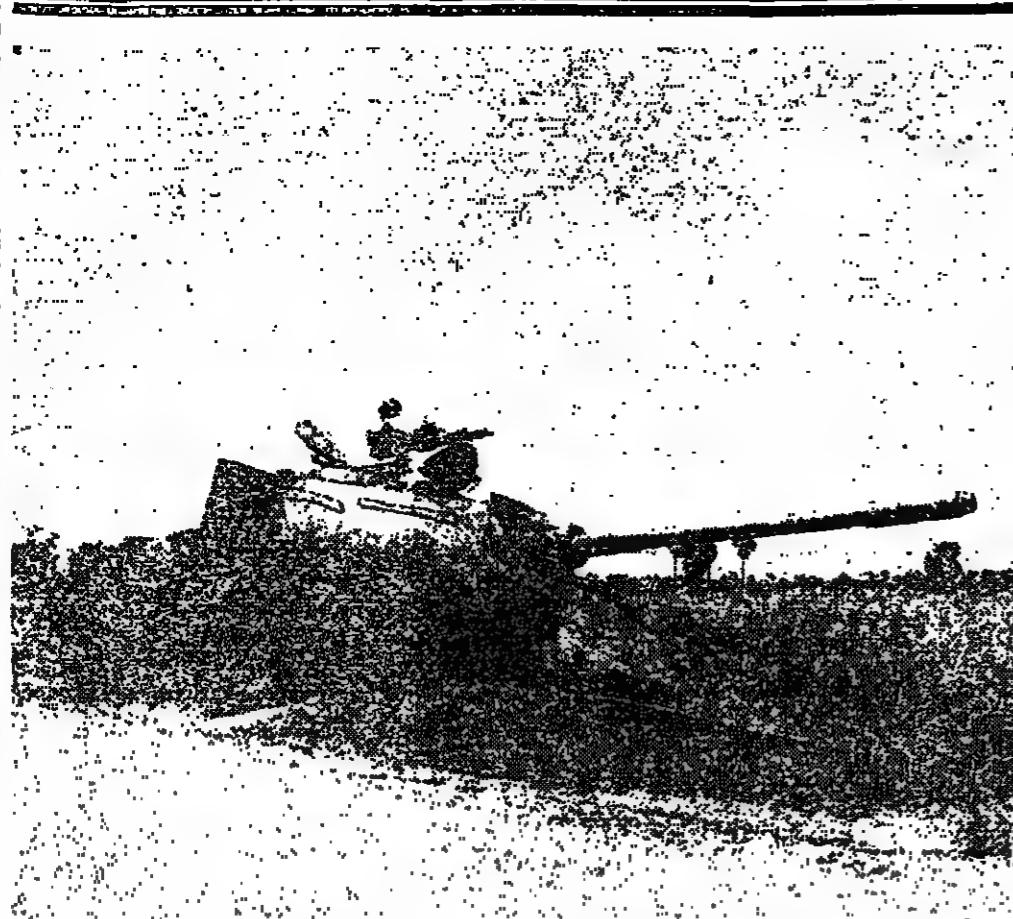
Yours faithfully,

BRIAN MONTGOMERY,

Army and Navy Club, SW1.

September 10.

## FOREIGN REPORT



One of the Soviet-built tanks knocked out during the Vietnamese invasion.

Phnom Penh's State Theatre is packed most afternoons nowadays for Kampuchea's first full-scale theatrical production for more than five years.

The performance is a vivid portrayal of Khmer Rouge horrors relieved by classical Khmer music and dance and some devastating lampooning of a fat, ineffectual Thailand, who, having prostrated himself in the service of the tiger-masked hegemonist, gets his comeuppance from the Communist Party of Thailand who serves the same master in Pek-

ing. In Phnom Penh the victory over the Pol Pot regime is portrayed as very much a Khmer one, perhaps in deference to the politically sensitive city audience. In the provinces a similar performance ends with a Vietnamese soldier standing behind a Kampuchean as he raises the flag of the new Kampuchea at the end of the performance.

The production and the stage troupe who perform are the responsibility of Mr Keng Chanh, Minister of Culture in the Phnom Penh Government, who is not only one of the political brains behind the Heng Samrin regime but also a long-time supporter of Vietnam as a Khmer communist who defected to Vietnam in 1973.

The piece is doubly interesting, not only for its skilful linking of the fear of the

## Stalking the Khmer tiger in remote Kampuchea

Khmer Rouge, brotherly Vietnamese friendship and the revival of Khmer culture but also for its emphasis on the political realities of the Kampuchean question.

The reality is that while Thailand makes great play of the assorted groups of anti-Vietnamese guerrillas, lodging on the Tharkampuchea border, many of whom have less interest in driving out the Vietnamese than in enriching themselves, there is enriching themselves the Samrin Government is systematically moulding a national administration which is growing in competence and influence week by week.

Through courses in Marx and Lenin, administration and regular political education sessions, the Phnom Penh Government is putting socialism to work in Kampuchea.

Those who find the mixture not to their liking tend to move aside. For the present the administration is a curious combination of former Khmer Rouge, pro-Vietnamese Khmer

and others.

All the more curious then,

Our South-East Asia Correspondent has recently returned from Kampuchea. This is the last of his five-part series which began on Monday.

Though it is hard to gauge the extent of support for the Government, Kampuchea are united in the desire for the Vietnamese to stay in the country so long as there is a threat from the Khmer Rouge.

Mr Huu Sen, the Foreign Minister, has indicated that Vietnamese technical help will be needed for a long time, but that the Vietnamese Army will withdraw as soon as the Pol Pot menace has been eliminated.

Middle-class Kampuchea seems to have alternative to the presence of the Vietnamese. In many cases, literally, saved their lives. But one Western

source believes that there has been at least one big trial of anti-Vietnamese dissidents who maintained in open court that a third revolution was now

needed after the bloody one

perpetrated by Pol Pot and the "colonial" one instigated by

Huon.

Visions to Kampuchea are constantly questioned about

how much the outside world knows about the million deaths under Pol Pot. People are incredulous that, if the world really does know, a majority of nations should continue to support the seating of the Pol Pot Government at the United Nations.

The Heng Samrin Government, for its part, is preparing elections next year, but it is clear where it is going to be pre-

pared. Little scope for participation by any of the non-implies

from Kampuchea's political past.

Indeed, most of them have, one way and another, disfigured themselves in the eyes of much of the population of

Kampuchea. It is noticeable that in the border refugee camps the name of Prince Sihanouk still lights up people's faces whereas within Kampuchea itself Sihanouk is remembered now for having thrown in his lot with the Khmer Rouge.

Mention of other figures, such as Son Sann, the former

Prime Minister, merely provokes a catalogue of their misdeeds, and the newly

moderate face of the Khmer

Rouge leadership under Heng Samrin certainly cuts little

ice.

As one Kampuchean put it: "The people of this country would welcome any government at the present time which gives them peace and stability." Given the mayhem of the past 10 years, that means the status quo.

But that situation does not suit the Chinese. They have declared that they intend to bleed the Vietnamese through the Khmer Rouge in Kampuchea. So far the indications are that the Khmer Rouge are capable of staging little more than nuisance raids and occasionally capturing a border town with little prospect of expelling the Vietnamese.

But the Khmers are by now well used to living their customary used in an international chess board. After all they have suffered. It is a sad commentary that is not a brighter prospect.

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David Watts

## Getty museum tries to appear tight-fisted

Each week's mail brings a flood of solicitations seeking to relieve the world's richest art institution of some of its considerable fortune. But, in spite of being able to spend about £25m a year on acquisitions, the J. Paul Getty Museum in Malibu, California, is trying to give the impression of being tight-fisted, according to Mr Stephen Garrett, the Cambridge-educated architect who is the director.

The name of the J. Paul Getty endowment has made the art world nervous. Would Mr Garrett and his trustees be leaping around the world, spending like gods, wanting to buy up art works at enormously inflated prices and setting the market on its ear? In the event, the Getty Museum, which opened in 1974, has been at great pains to be unobtrusive, since the news of the huge bequest after Getty's death in 1976 so much set the art world on edge. The "Resurrection" by the Flemish master Dick Brueghel in London last April, for example, was bought by Norton Simon, who forced up the price to capture it for his museum at Pasadena, California.

A mere 100 yards from the blue Pacific and the rambling traffic on the busy Pacific Coast Highway, Mr Garrett was having lunch under the elms by a Romanesque fountain in one of the museum's many sun-dappled courtyards, telling a group of visiting university students about the not altogether unpleasing problem of coming into a fortune.

"The Bouts painting is a good example of our problem," he said. "It's exactly our cup of tea. But at the last moment we decided not to bid. We knew this sale would attract huge publicity and huge prices. But we do not want that kind of big spending reputation."

"I hope we have created a climate where people are saying: 'Well, they haven't got the money yet and in any case they seem fairly tight-fisted.' That, you see, makes it easier for us to infiltrate quickly what's really important."

The Getty Museum is a recreation of the Villa dei Papiri in Herculaneum, overlooking the Bay of Naples. It overlooks

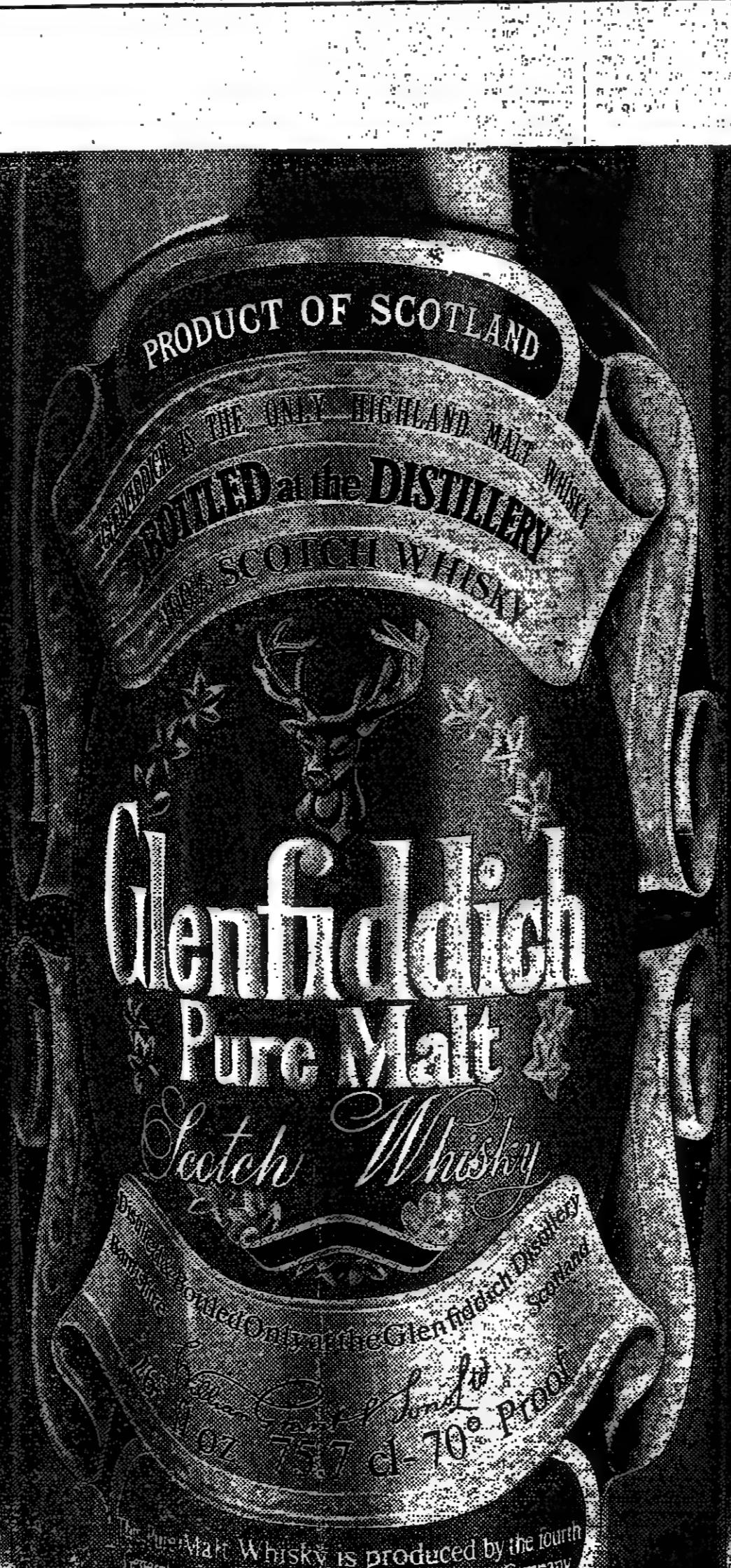
the Bay of Santa Monica.

Despite all the initial publicity about the building, Mr Gar-

rett has also been raising recently that the Getty might open a "branch museum" in London. This could allow it to purchase and house in Britain items that would then be available for loan to the Malibu establishment.

The Getty could also work with other art museums by buying jointly, which was done recently with the Courtauld Institute in London.

Ivor Davis



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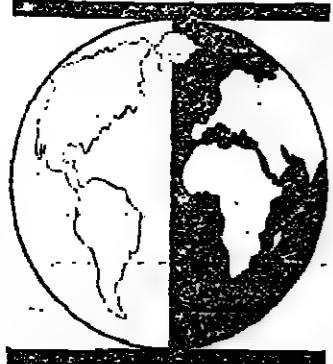
## Stock Exchange Prices **Gilts ease**

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Sept 1. Dealings End, Sept 12. § Contango Day, Sept 15. Settlement Day, Sept 22  
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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British Telecom's network set for completion in 1990

## £2,500m System X project starts

The first of British Telecom's much-heralded electronic telephone exchanges—System X—was officially opened in London yesterday. It represents one of the major components of the corporation's modernization programme.

The system will embrace the 30 major trunk exchanges by 1986, including all the principal cities in the United Kingdom. By 1990 the £2,500m System X modernization programme is expected to be nearly complete.

But the system is more than just a breakthrough for its designers and manufacturers—GEC, Plessey, STC and British Telecom. According to Mr Peter Benton, British Telecom's managing director, it represents one of the most important features in the infrastructure needed to support commerce and industry.

The Republic of Ireland realized the importance of this type of communications system when it gave priority to an investment of £650m to

modernize its telephone network. Without it, the Irish Government was the first to admit, its plans for industrial expansion would be seriously curtailed.

The creators of System X hope the new digital system can achieve 10 per cent of a telecommunications export market assessed at £100m a year.

The partners in the project formed a new company called British Telecommunications Systems in 1979 to promote the sale of System X outside the United Kingdom. Teams from BTS have shown off the technology at exhibitions in Geneva and Rio de Janeiro over the past year. Next spring it will be displayed in Bahrain.

Competition from manufacturers in the United States, Japan and Canada is exceptionally fierce in trying to attract business from the Middle East, South America and some parts of the Far East.

Last month, BTS was market-

ing the technology in China and plans a return trip at the beginning of next year.

No export orders have yet been placed for the system, but the company seems optimistic that within the next four or five months it will have acquired the first export order for System X.

Its success will depend on a number of factors, particularly the acceptability of its designs. The finance available to potential customers will be a crucial factor in determining the success of any telecommunications contract. Before BSC can sell the system abroad, it must be operating successfully in the United Kingdom.

British Telecom's programme for System X and other equipment, including refurbishing, will require an investment of about £1,500m a year over the next five years. That investment must be financed under British Telecom's present structure, largely from its own

revenue because of strict cash limits on borrowing.

What will System X mean to the domestic customer who will finance most of that expansion? In theory, a far better system.

British Telecom claims the new system, which has been in use in London since July 1, has taken 25 million calls since then, with a failure rate of only one or two in 4,000. This is an improvement factor of 20 on some, some.

Facilities such as rerouting calls will be tried in the local exchange in Woodbridge, Suffolk, the next area to take the system. That will take place next year, and will be followed by a similar trunk system in Cambridge.

However, the performance of

the first System X, based in the City of London and inter-

connecting 40 local exchanges, will give indications of the future of this new technology.

Bill Johnstone

## US budget deficit of \$55,000m forecast

From Frank Vogl, US Economics Correspondent, Washington, Sept 11

The United States budget deficit for the 1980 fiscal year that ends on September 30 will probably be around \$55,000m (about £22,917m) according to Mr Bowman Cutler, executive associate director of the Office of Management and Budget.

The figure is significantly below the estimates circulating on Wall Street which suggest a deficit of \$64,000m or more. It also appears that financial markets are being influenced by some genuine misunderstandings about the implications for the coming year's deficit of President Carter's tax cutting plans.

Confusion about the budget is likely to grow. The United States Budget Act calls for Congress to pass a budget resolution this month setting spending levels for the coming fiscal year. Congressman Robert Giusto, chairman of the House of Representatives, said there was "now no chance at all of a budget resolution before the election".

Mr Giusto added that strong pressures were building up on Capitol Hill against recalling the Congress for a special session after the election on November 4. If there was no such session "there simply will not be a budget resolution this year".

In July the Carter Administration estimated the current year's budget deficit at more than \$53,000m and it estimated the 1981 deficit at \$29,800m. A reduction in this year's deficit from the estimated level is virtually certain because unemployment has grown more slowly.

## Heavy plant suppliers optimistic about increase in orders

By John Huxley

Prospects for heavy plant suppliers are better than for some time, with manufacturers already reporting an upturn in orders.

Mr Harry Hornsby, director general of the Process Plant Association, said that the industry had been going through a tough period. "But we can now see some light at the end of the tunnel. It will take some time for a build-up in orders to materialise, but I am optimistic that they will come."

"Three of our members told me only yesterday that their order books were fuller now than at this time last year."

The note of optimism struck by Mr Hornsby coincided with an announcement by Northern Engineering Industries that its subsidiary NEI Clarke-Chapman at Gateshead had won a nuclear boiler order worth about £9.5m.

Process plant manufacturers had expected to have sparse order books for a few years until energy-related construction began again. But their confidence in recent weeks has been raised by confirmation that work will go ahead soon on large oil and petrochemical projects.

Earlier this year, the Government announced its support for a pipeline system which will gather gas from a wide spread of North Sea fields. A total investment of about £1,100m is expected. An original committee including Mobil, British Gas and British Petroleum is planning the project in detail.

Last Monday, Esso confirmed that it is to go ahead with an ethane-based ethylene cracker at Mossmorran, Fife. The initial investment will be about £200m, but downstream developments could increase employment by 1,300 Gateshead employees until 1983.

The final total to more than £1,000m.

Process plant suppliers have campaigned hard to ensure that they obtain a large share of the work, and their hopes may have been raised by Dr David Smith, chairman of Eso Chemicals, who said that he expected British companies to be able to meet the various criteria for awarding contracts.

Mr Hornsby believes that the £625m package of North Sea projects announced by Occidental Petroleum last week could bring £300m worth of orders to his members. No time scale has been set for two of the Occidental projects, and it seems unlikely that the various ethylene plants being planned by Dow, Esso and Occidental will each go ahead.

Apart from petrochemical orders, investment for both nuclear and coal gasification and liquefaction plants is expected by the plant suppliers. Moreover, investment in the food, drink and packaging industries has not been badly affected by the recession. The process plant industry has annual sales of about £2,000m, of which almost a third is exported.

NEI Clarke-Chapman's order has been awarded by the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority for the assembly of tube bundle for the Dounreay prototype fast reactor. The order will ensure work for some of the 1,300 Gateshead employees until 1983.

The company expects that orders for boilers for the two new advanced gas-cooled reactors at Heysham and Torness will be placed before the end of the year, ensuring employment for the rest of the workforce.

## Du Pont jobs blow to Northern Ireland

Job prospects in Northern Ireland suffered another severe setback yesterday. More than 400 workers at Du Pont's Orton acrylic fibres plant at Maydown near Londonderry are to lose their jobs. A further 300 textile workers in the area also expect redundancy in the next few days.

Du Pont is Londonderry's largest employer, and a quarter of its workforce will be lost. The company will no longer manufacture acrylic fibres in Europe. An Orton plant at Dordrecht in the Netherlands was closed last year.

Continuing losses at Maydown were blamed on overcapacity within the industry. Du Pont retains three other plants on the site, producing polypropylene, synthetic rubber, styrene, isocyanates and Lycra elastomers.

Chubb sheds 550

About 550 workers will be made redundant because Chubb & Son will stop making cash registers. About 375 are based at the Chubb Cash factory in Bellingbury, Brighton.

The company's withdrawal leaves the cash register market entirely in overseas manufacturers, whose market share has increased to 95 per cent.

Rover line closing

EL plants a further cut in Rover car production with the loss of hundreds more jobs in the West Midlands. Yesterday, BL confirmed that one of the three car assembly lines at Solihull will be closed before the end of the year and that 450 voluntary redundancies will be needed. About 100 will be sought over the next few weeks.

John Brown shutdown

John Brown, the engineering group, will close its Lessons Plastics plant at Burtonwood, Lancashire, in November, with the loss of 180 jobs.

Talks between management and unions, who say that the company intends to transfer work to other parts of the group which are already losing money, failed to save the plant.

Pottery redundancies

Two pottery companies in North Staffordshire announced 230 redundancies. H. and R. Johnson, of Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent, which makes tiles, is to make 180 redundant at two factories. Royal Worcester Spode's factory at Longton is to close with 50 jobs lost.

Perkins lays off 200

At the Perkins diesel engine company at Peterborough 200 workers were laid off. The men are employed on V8 engine production, but have been sent home for two weeks because of a drop in demand.

350 jobs likely

Molins, the cigarette machinery manufacturing group, is to build a new factory at Milton Keynes in Buckinghamshire which is expected to create 350 jobs by 1983.

The company said it had begun restructuring because of prospective demand for its handling and packaging systems exceeding the possible output at its Deptford premises.

Developing countries' average current account deficits between 1974 and 1978 totalled \$20,000m (£12,500m). In 1979 these were \$42,000m and in 1980 they will be \$50,000m.

The ratio of debt servicing costs to export earnings rose on average from 15 per cent in 1973 to 18 per cent in 1979. The debt service burden increased from \$17,000m to \$57,000m.

Opec's decision to raise its own aid fund from \$16,000m to \$4,000m was inadequate he said. The recommendation of Venezuela and Algeria to place \$20,000m into a new Opec bank would be best directed through institutions like the World Bank. The World Bank has suggested spinning off an affiliate for Third World energy projects of \$25,000m.

The developing countries, however, should accept the financial strings attached to IMF balance of payments loans so they would move towards a healthier financial position in the future.

Commercial bank's lending would need to be aided by greater cooperation with international agencies with an increased exchange of information on credit worthiness.

For further details of the results and/or the John Lewis Partnership please telephone 01-637 3434 Ext 6221.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Where Britain fails in translating ideas into commercial success

From Mr G. W. W. Pentin

Sir, The correspondence between Air Commodore Nance and Sir Frederick Bokan is fascinating for here, in microcosm, are important clues to that much quoted difficulty of the United Kingdom in bringing the gap between innovation and major commercial implementation.

Facilities such as research and development will be tried in the local exchange in Woodbridge, Suffolk, the next area to take the system. That will take place next year, and will be followed by a similar trunk system in Cambridge.

However, the performance of the first System X, based in the City of London and interconnecting 40 local exchanges, will give indications of the future of this new technology.

Bill Johnstone

when faced with a recent and confirming United States "consensus". The "consensus" is a temporary emotion and not much reliance should be placed on the fact that the issuing committee comprised honorable men (already happening).

(b) Some other committee, another country, will receive the emergence of a new technology and stimulate the movement to punch through to necessary industrial structure. (Probably happening now.)

(c) In some three to five years a new UK committee will be formed, and logically, that a product be imported. (Probably happening now, for "Windmills".)

(d) UK companies will either import licences or struggle unsuccessfully to penetrate and reach the back-to-back technology and marketing.

(e) A TIC conference will discuss its theme. "Unemployment" is one.

(f) Someone like me will write you a letter like one.

Sir, the world is changing. Committees are not England.

Yours faithfully,  
GEOFFREY W. W. PENTIN  
Chairman  
Control Technology Limited  
Prestonhaven  
Sussex.

September 5.

## 'Persuasion' Tea trolley assistants solution to bank queuing

From Mr T. J. T. Heap

Sir, I refer to Mr D. H. K. Cornish's letter of September 9. It would appear that Mr Cornish has unwittingly supplied at least partial solution to the problem in the time span that he gives for staff lunches—11.30 am-2.30 pm.

Within the next few days Courtaulds is expected to make redundant about 300 workers at its Cambridgeshire spinning and finishing mill.

Chubb sheds 550

About 550 workers will be made redundant because Chubb & Son will stop making cash registers. About 375 are based at the Chubb Cash factory in Bellingbury, Brighton.

As a practical banker myself

who has seen a three-fold increase in operation, I can assure Mr Cornish that it is very well in practice and to the customer's advantage, which by the way seems often frequently to be ignored, in banking circles.

I was therefore very surprised to see an advertisement on page 29 of the Evening Standard of September 2 on behalf of Barclays Bank, requiring tea trolley assistants at a wage of £6.27 per hour, inclusive of bank benefits (no qualifications required), and an advertisement in the Daily Mail of the same date for a product development supervisor for a major publishing and marketing group (Charles Letts & Co) at a salary of £5,000 per year, qualifications to A level required.

I would honestly like to know how the two aforementioned jobs can justify only £20 per week difference. Is this why Britain is going wrong? In recent newspapers I have read of graduates returning to manual

labour, as much for the money as just to have a job as we preferred to the "dole".

I do feel that it is time labour, and as I see it, is relates to all work, which be a tea trolley assistant chairman of a public company be rewarded according to merit.

No wonder our quid population is flocking to other countries, the opportunities are not rewarded. I therefore was fully requested that both large and small businesses alike their responsibilities relate to employment and not set offered. In perspective, Britain has a great task of it to get back on to world map as to produce good products at competitive prices.

Are we to become a nation of tea trolley assistants? Yours faithfully,  
V. LEONARD  
28b Lower Bristol Road,  
Weston-super-Mare,  
Avon BS2 2PS  
September 7.

## Schroders

### Interim Statement

The Directors of Schroders Limited have resolved to pay an interim dividend for the year ending 31 December, 1980 of 3p per share on the Ordinary Shares of £1 each (fully paid).

This interim dividend takes account both of the capitalisation issue made in April 1980 (which on a strict scaling down to an equivalent basis would have reduced last year's interim dividend of 3p per share to a dividend of 1.5p per share) and of the Directors' expressed intention as forecast in the Chairman's Statement issued with the accounts in April last to reduce the disparity in size between the interim and final dividends. It does not of itself imply an increase in the total sum to be distributed by way of dividend in respect of 1980.

The dividend will be payable on 30th October, 1980 to shareholders whose names appear in the Register of Members of the Company as at 2nd October, 1980.

The profits of the Schroder Group for the first six months of 1980 were higher than those achieved during the corresponding period of 1979.

120 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6DS 14th September, 1980

## The John Lewis Partnership

department stores and Waitrose supermarkets

John Lewis Partnership Limited  
Consolidated Results

1980 £ million 1979 £ million

Sales (including VAT)

344.0 294.0

Trading Profit

16

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Turner & Newall grasps the nettle

settlement in Zimbabwe could not have come at a better time for Turner & Newall, which has significant asbestos mining and manufacturing interests there. Not only has it meant an infusion of £29m worth of net cash into the balance sheet (which taken with a £5m reduction in net debt achieved through the sale of various overseas assets during the period has pulled back gearing at the end of June from 50 per cent to only 36 per cent), but it has also provided an extra profit when T & N is most in need of it, nevertheless it has not prevented a one-cut in the interim dividend which is due through with the final dividend yield of 10.3 per cent with the rest at 10.6 per cent. That decision reflects the underlying situation at present: earnings, after redundancy costs of £5m in the half, are still insufficient to cover the end on an historic cost basis, let alone current cost accounting.

T & N's British earnings, generated largely due to the automotive and construction sectors, remain under heavy pressure. The Kingdom profit fell again from £9m to £5m in the first half. Overseas, (discounting the first Zimbabwe divestment) fell by £1.8m to £24m. The encouraging point is that T & N's management has not been idle. Whilst seeking to maintain the base of the business it sold peripheral assets worth £2m. Investment in the United Kingdom has reduced by 2,750 over a seven month period. The savings, theoretically available, should be some £15m a year, and balance sheet is now in good shape to face the recession.

T & N is, common with most companies in the manufacturing sector, needs a reversal in earnings. When that will be anybody's guess at the moment, but if it happens the market is going to worry the dividend now that T & N has taken a decision to cut.

### Business Peat immunity

AN exceptionally period in the commodity market has saved "Guinness Peat" from what otherwise would have been disappointing results. Trading profits almost doubled to a but commodities contributed £1.2m, a rise of £10.7m, which accounts for the overall rise.

It was foreshadowed in the first half that the second half saw not just the framework in the prices of oil and other raw materials but in rubber and sugar as well. Profits doubled to £15.7m.

Globe, which specializes in market leaders and increase its investment abroad, ending up eventually with a small number of big investments; Electra is going for special situations and unlisted companies.

The investment will realize Globe £30.7m and will be Globe shareholders at 45% a time, equal to £35m before a planned two-for-one scrip-issue.

Globe is putting itself in money but at the expense of diluting asset value. It goes down from 19.1p to 18.1p.

But the capitalization makes Globe shares more attractive to hold. We may see more disengaging and possibly some capital-raising now that the trust discount has narrowed to 20 per cent.

Trusts have certainly been run on their merits as the disappearance of the currency premium, the abolition of dividend caps, and the scoop freedom from capital gains tax.

That is, it has carved a useful niche among local authorities.

The question now is whether the group's new strategy of concentrating more on the market is not producing an imbalance.

73.4 per cent is a useful stabilizing and it may be necessary to increase relative to that of the whole group's market position before marking the up down to 74.7p. An 18% gross, the dividend is 12 per cent higher, after a fall of 6.07%. Cover has been increased 1.58 times to 1.94, reflecting the own caution about the future.

Yield of 6.8 per cent and a p/e ratio of the shares look high enough.

### d Biscuits easing the dend

is a familiar story from United where retail de-stocking in the trade hit business in the first half. GB has done better than some, profits are maintained at £15.5m, expects to better 1979's pretax profit for the full year.

Profits had in fact risen by 15.3% to £20.4m but interest charges—up 4% to £4.3m—eliminated that gain.

The £23m rights issue in March has cash resources and knocked net borrowings down to just over 20 per cent of shareholders' funds.

group has a heavy expenditure program in new technology of around £100m a year, of which some £60m will be

spent this year. £1m of it on the United Kingdom biscuit division.

In the United States, a month's strike at Keebler knocked \$2m (£528,000) off profits, but the United States trading contribution still rose £1.1m to £26m.

Other overseas interests turned round from a £1m trading loss to a breakeven Group sales rose £34.7m to £295m.

Autumn and Christmas sales are now vital to the group, the second half last year profit

when T & N is most in need of it, nevertheless it has not prevented a one-cut in the interim dividend which is due through with the final dividend yield of 10.3 per cent with the rest at 10.6 per cent. That decision reflects the underlying situation at present: earnings, after redundancy costs of £5m in the half, are still insufficient to cover the end on an historic cost basis, let alone current cost accounting.

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The encouraging point is that T & N's management has not been idle. Whilst seeking to maintain the base of the business it sold peripheral assets worth £2m.

Reduced nearly two-thirds of trading profits and forward orders look reasonably encouraging.

So, the interim dividend is up 10 per cent, suggesting a 16.6 per cent yield at 88p where the shares are back to pre-rights issue levels. With final profits likely to be around 7.8 per cent up, giving a fully-taxed prospective p/e of 12, the shares remain a good defensive stock.

**The Murray Johnstone group announced in July that its five big trusts were going to abandon similar investment policies and go their own ways and now the Electra Group has taken a big step towards disengaging our largest single investment trust, Globe, from Electra, lowering its stake in Electra from 14.4% per cent to 26.73 per cent.**

Globe wants to specialize in market leaders and increase its investment abroad, ending up eventually with a small number of big investments; Electra is going for special situations and unlisted companies.

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Yield of 6.8 per cent and a p/e ratio of the shares look high enough.

**Hepworth Ceramic  
American ambitions**

Even Hepworth Ceramic's legendary capacity for turning declining volume into increasing profits could not cope with the steel strike, although in the first half of this year it worked for every division except refractories which swing from a £5.3m profit last year to a loss of £2.6m in the six months.

This left trading profits down from £16.15m to £14.6m. But last year's rights issue corrected the balance sheet sufficiently to transform a £795,000 interest charge into a £612,000 credit leaving pretax profit only marginally down from £15.3m to £15m. Full year profit should be maintained at around last year's £36.2m.

Meanwhile, the tender offer for Western Pleasants represents the end for the time being of Hepworth's acquisitive drive and the end of the creation in the United States of a mirror image of Hepworth UK without the refractories.

If the same team can be achieved, over there the intention is that United States and United Kingdom earnings should reach parity at some stage over the next decade.

So the gamble is on management's ability to pursue the embryonic Hepworth in America with the same success as in the United Kingdom.

World consumption of lead now amounts to almost four million tonnes a year, of which the United Kingdom manufactures about 340,000 tonnes. The

share already reflect the fact that Hepworth is an exception to the rule in the manufacturing sector. The shares should be held.

**Business Diary: Tailors cut their cloth**

**• Knight errant**

Sir Terry Beckett yesterday claimed he started off as the centre of the tent's outfitters, is with one of its equally rivals, Sullivan.

He is a buyer for Queen and Sullivan, are dressing Rex for his revival of My Fair Lady for the production.

Original Henry Poole a showroom on to show in 1846 and soon a warrant of appointment. The firm of Cork Street in the possibly to get a bit away from Carnaby.

Woolley got going in 1850 it made Mongomery's first uniform when he was on and posted to Wirkshire moving from Conduit to Poole's place where room for everybody, being that they can workshops alongside showroom instead of them outside the West, savings should mean young tailors can be cutters visit overseas more often. They are now assuring it will be very much as usual after the which takes place on

the 10th of October.

The EBF is trying to campaign more effectively among behalf of women and men people, Sir Terry was invited to see Sue Redpath (right) named as regional winner for her diagnostic aid for measuring leg disability.

Susan of EBF's School, Lisbon, was an industrialist and a £100 prize from BP, £100 from Lucas Industries and a trip to Canada with Albright & Wilson.

Ford men believe in team work, and appropriately The Young Engineers for Britain

are to be held in London on 10th October.

The safety section has apparently tested in vain a number of electrostatic and chemical stoppers to protect postmen from electrostatic discharging. Devices tried so far, out-whine, howl and pong dogs, but like early filmstocks, are almost as dangerous to those behind as to those in front of them.

According to a report in The Post, the journal of the Union of Communications Workers, postmen report each year about 4,000 attacks by animals, mostly dogs.

With technological delivery from man's best friend not yet at hand, the PO is having to put its faith in the law.

The safety section has just put out a bulletin wholly devoted to attacks by dogs. This reminds postmen that the office having been informed of an attack,

one was that district constable should have "dog warning" and the other that the

owners of dogs who bite people should be fined, and that a restraining order on a dog should be transferred to any new owner.

Also, for postmen, the Dogs Bill was put down when the Tories came to power last year. It would not do to upset the foxhounds, what?

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## FINANCIAL NEWS

## Stock markets

## Warning on economy curbs trading

More gloomy news on the industrial front and the Prime Minister's warning about the economic problems ahead contributed to a lower level of activity yesterday.

Equities and gilts both drifted during the morning as hopes of a cut in interest rates waned. The gentle retreat continued as the moment for a change in the market to be announced came and went, and by lunchtime the FT Index was hovering only narrowly above the 500 mark.

However, no real selling pressure developed and towards the close equities perked up as a few buyers reappeared, pushing the index back up to 513.50 on the day's close.

Government securities, a little nervous ahead of a possible new tap today and on fears that the foreigners may be beginning to sell, failed to emulate the modest rally in equities.

The slide continued, although dealers said that selling remained fairly light with a little more pressure developing after hours. At the close longs were showing losses of around £1 to £1 although after-hours business saw the tap Treasury 113.1991 'A' trading as low as £463.

Dunlop was the main feature on the leaders' pitches. Heavy Far Eastern buying was reported, pushing the shares up 5p to 30p. Elsewhere, P&O recovered part of the previous day's losses on results to close 3p better at 125.1.

ICI was unchanged at 370p but Beechams at 155p and Glaxo at 245p were both 2p firmer. Unilever slipped 5p to 495p, Lucas 5p to 231p and Bowater gave up 5p to 170p.

Standard Chartered remained a good market in the wake of this week's good results, and the shares gained a further 7p to 61p.

Akroyd & Smithers was another feature with a 20p gain in 355p on hopes of activity in the gilts market.

The home banks were quiet,

Results in the financial sector included Allen Harvey & Ross, down 10p to 398p. Elsewhere among the discount houses Carter Ryder eased 10p to 36p.

Figures from Guinness Peat also left the shares easier, down 2p to 147p, but Schroders gained 2p to 320p after profit news.

Standard Chartered remained a good market in the wake of this week's good results, and the shares gained a further 7p to 61p.

BP rose 2p to 360p, but Laxmo at 655p, and Ultramar at 365p, both ended unchanged.

There were some firm spots among second liners with Sovereign a feature up 14p to 316p.

Properties were a dull market ending a penny weaker among the leaders. Haslemere held

firm, while Weir Group,

Electricals were a good market, sharing in the late rally but most closed below the best. Applied Computer, up 20p to 50p and Dale Electric up 5p to 105p were in demand, but STC fell 10p to 45p on profit-taking, and GEC at 520p and Racal at 334p were both 1p easier.

Maynards helped the shares up 5p to 136p and elsewhere Linford at 164p and Billards at 155p were both up 2p while Cadbury-Schweppes firmed 1p to 70p.

In engineering, Wellman fell 10p to 63p on news of a sharp decline in orders and BTR gave up another 10p to 364p in the wake of recent figures.

Babcock International, which also reported recently, eased 10p to 25p and Chubb slipped 2p to 95p on news of closures.

Note the call option activity in Balfour registered property company, Laganvale, where Mr James Slater has a significant interest. The shares eased 2p to 36p yesterday, recovering the levels before the group's rights issue announced last week.

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Standard Chartered remained a good market in the wake of this week's good results, and the shares gained a further 7p to 61p.

BP rose 2p to 360p, but Laxmo at 655p, and Ultramar at 365p, both ended unchanged.

There were some firm spots among second liners with Sovereign a feature up 14p to 316p.

Properties were a dull market ending a penny weaker among the leaders. Haslemere held

firm, while Weir Group,

Electricals were a good market, sharing in the late rally but most closed below the best. Applied Computer, up 20p to 50p and Dale Electric up 5p to 105p were in demand, but STC fell 10p to 45p on profit-taking, and GEC at 520p and Racal at 334p were both 1p easier.

Maynards helped the shares up 5p to 136p and elsewhere Linford at 164p and Billards at 155p were both up 2p while Cadbury-Schweppes firmed 1p to 70p.

In engineering, Wellman fell 10p to 63p on news of a sharp decline in orders and BTR gave up another 10p to 364p in the wake of recent figures.

Babcock International, which also reported recently, eased 10p to 25p and Chubb slipped 2p to 95p on news of closures.

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## Motoring

### How Mercedes pleases tycoons and cabbies

No matter how well a car manufacturer engineers its products, if they are to make the maximum impact in the market their engineering integrity has to be backed up with skilled product planning decisions at the initial design stage.

Daimler-Benz Ag have an enviable record of sustained success in car manufacturing and marketing, and there is no doubt that engineering quality has been an important contribution to this record. But so, surely, has the company's product-planning philosophy, which is interesting if only because it runs counter to that of most other manufacturers.

The Mercedes-Benz range, which in this country covers a price span from just under £2,400 (for the 200 saloon) to almost £30,500 (for the 450 SEL 6.9), is for the most part built round two basic designs (I am ignoring in this context the SL series of sports coupes, which probably accounts for less than 5 per cent of total car production).

There is even much in common, visually, between the two designs—the W123 series which extends from the 200 through to the 280 E, and the S series embracing models from the 280 SE to the slightly longer-wheelbase 450 SEL derivatives. Here,

therefore, in two treatments of the four-door, three-box saloon theme we have a comprehensive range of cars covering a market spectrum from taxi drivers to tycoons and seemingly achieving a very high level of brand loyalty at either end.

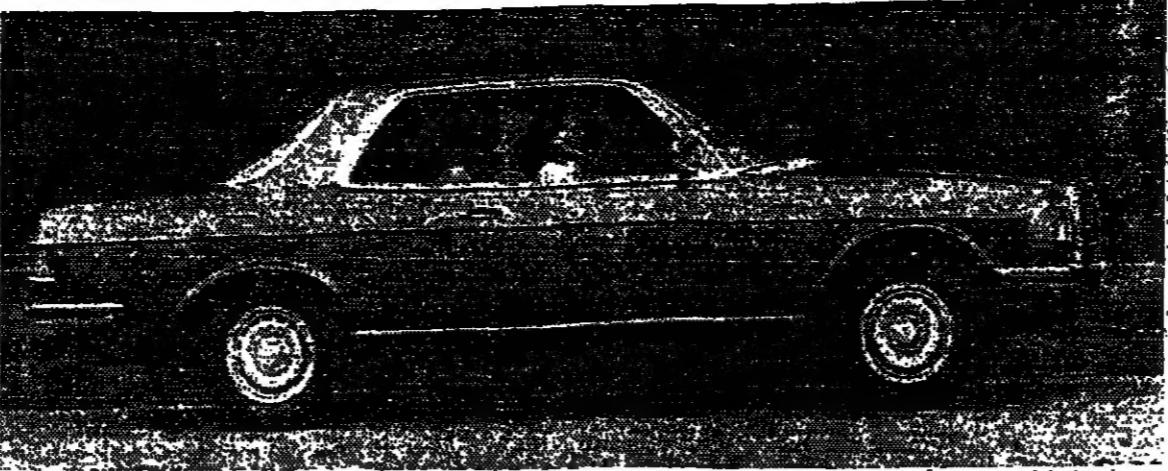
In a car park, or even in a showroom, the quickest way to distinguish a 200 (especially if it has a few extras) from a 200 D, 230, 240 D, 250 or 280 E is to check the badge on the luggage compartment lid. Similarly this is the easiest way to identify a 280 SE from a 350 SE, 450 SE, 450 SEL or 450 SEL 6.9.

In fact, it is becoming difficult even to "cheat" in this way because of a policy in some markets to drive "anonymous" models devoid of any identification numbers and letters at the rear. This, it seems, is more to disguise upper-range models than to suggest that more modest variants are something rather more expensive.

It is vested in an anxiety to be socially acceptable in an era of energy conservation (what a pity there is not a similar level of concern about over-heated and over-illuminated industrial, commercial and domestic buildings).

In this country, only one manufacturer (Rolls-Royce) has a broader price span between its cheapest and most expensive product (and there is little visual similarity between a Silver Shadow and a Camargue), yet the Mercedes-Benz product-planning philosophy has obviously paid handsome dividends to the German company.

Meanwhile, for those potential M-B customers seeking more individuality, and for whom an SL or SLC offers insufficient accommodation, there are two



Expensive end of the range—the 280CE

attractive possibilities. There is the range of estate car derivatives of the W123 design, carrying the TD or TD suffix, or one of the two shorter-wheelbase coupe versions, available as the 230 C or, in the much more zestful form in which I recently tested it, the fuel-injected six-cylinder twin-overhead-camshaft 280 CE.

Let it be said at the start that this is a very expensive car. Its list price is £14,540. By the time you have added £435 for an electrically operated sun roof, £172 for cruise control, an appropriately cool £1,118 for air conditioning, £128 for headlamp wash/wipe and £454 for a set of alloy wheels you are perilously close to £17,000 and you have yet to buy some appropriately high-quality audio equipment.

For such an outlay you are entitled to expect the best, and in the main you are unlikely to be disappointed. For a relatively heavy car engine performance is excellent—60 mph from rest in just over 10 seconds and 100

mph in half a minute. Maximum speed in my hands was 125 mph, but there was still a little more to come. At its relatively high tick-over speed the engine sounds busy, but within the well-insulated interior the noise is not obtrusive. There is little more than distant growl during

engine running, but can be swung forward freely with the ignition turned off. Rear-seat head and leg room are acceptable for a four-seater coupe; but those contemplating a fifth occupant or requiring a little more space for four should opt for the 280 E saloon.

The luggage compartment

proved to be cavernous, rear-

ward vision somewhat marred by large head restraints. Other minor irritations were the lack of a rev counter and the slow operation of the electric window lifts. Although firmly sprung, the 280 CE rides well over most surfaces, but could do with a little more cushioning over the really rough stuff.

Body roll is well restrained and the car responds well to the large steering wheel, although the mechanism lacks the precision of the best rack-and-pinion systems. The four-speed automatic transmission is a model of its type, utterly smooth in operation.

The front seat backs are locked in position with the

engine running, but can be swung forward freely with the ignition turned off. Rear-seat head and leg room are acceptable for a four-seater coupe; but those contemplating a fifth occupant or requiring a little more space for four should opt for the 280 E saloon.

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Depending on your right foot,

top gear can be used at 30 mph, or third held well into the 80s, while manual override is aided by a very smooth acting shift lever within a well-defined gate.

A pleasant surprise was the car's economy. A trip from London to Yorkshire and considerable minor-road driving gave almost exactly 24 mpg and overall consumption was close to 22 mpg with, admittedly, a minimum of wasteful traffic jams during the test period. As expected, the quality of finish and detail work was beyond reproach; here was a car with genuine long-life potential, which perhaps helps to put the high initial cost into a better perspective.

#### Alfa 6 arrives

Alfa Romeo have widened their market in the UK by introducing this week a right-hand-drive version of their 2.3-litre Alfa 6 four-door saloon at £11,900. At this price the car will be supplied with automatic transmission, inertia front seat belts, 12-months' warranty, free selected routine service parts, for the first 27,000 miles and a 12-months breakdown recovery insurance, including three days' car hire.

"Is this a penalty of buying a foreign car?" he asks. In a sense, it is, if you are talking about up-market cars. Certain (but not all) replacement parts tend to be anything but cheap, labour rates for skilled mechanics (some of these cars are very complicated to work on) are high, and consequently insurance premiums tend to be loaded.

But we live in a competitive world, and there is little doubt that some garages, and some insurance companies, offer far better value than others. My advice, before choosing a car (new or used), is to get a few insurance quotes, and then one or two quotes for routine services and parts. You could be surprised... either way! (BMW say that a 10,000-mile service should cost on more than £90 to £120, including VAT.)

John Blundell

## CAR BUYER'S GUIDE

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TRIUMPH 2000 PI

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## PERSONAL CHOICE



## Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

## TELEVISION

## BBC 1

5.40 am *Open University*: Whales and whaling; 7.05 *Non-linearities*: The curious history of North-Sundridge. Closedown at 7.35. 11.00 *International Golf*: Great Britain and Ireland versus Europe. In the first meeting of the year, the British team will be represented by Captain Carl-Larsen coverage from the Old Course at St Andrews. 12.45 pm News and weather forecast. 1.00 *Pebble Mill at One*: Growers of grain, oilseed will be interested in the programme; it has news about the world's biggest oilseed championships. 1.45 *Bod*: For very young children. The story of Bod and the Grasshopper (c). Closedown at 2.45. 2.45 *Racing from Goodwood*: Live coverage of three races, the 2.45, the 2.45 and the 3.45 *Commonwealth Cup*. Directed by Peter O'Sullivan, Jimmy Lemmy and John Hammer. 3.25 *Play School*: *Thee Lesie's* and *Elmer* will join up on top, with Roy McKee's illustrations. 3.40 *Bufford Dogs*: Two cartoons. 4.40 *The Ransom of Red Chief*: American film about a kidnapped boy. With Jack Palance and John Goodman. 5.10 *On Location*: Susan Stranks

## BBC 2

5.40 am *Open University*: Art as performance: 7.05 *Oceanic cruise*; 7.30 *Predicting failure*. Closedown at 7.45. 8.00 *Liberal Party Assembly*: 1980: The third day of the party's annual get-together. From the Winter Gardens, Blackpool. There is further live coverage at 11.25 and 11.30, with a round-up on 11.50. 11.00 *Play School*: Same at BBC 1, 3.55. 11.25 *Liberal Party Assembly*: Back to Blackpool for more meetings. Closedown at 11.30. 2.00 *International Golf*: The second round of the men's singles matches to the Hemsley Cup, from Old Course; Sunningdale, Great Britain and Ireland versus Europe. More coverage from the British team. 3.15 *Liberal Party Assembly*: The party leader, David Steel, gives the end-of-conference address at Blackpool.

## THAMES

9.30 am *Robot Robin Hood*: Cartoon; *A Name for the Moon*: *Alien* about to land. Mexican Indians (c). 10.40 *Stone Hour*: It's a Brand New World. The story of Noah and Samson, in cartoon form with music. 11.30 *The White Stone*: Episode 8 of *He-Man and the Masters of the Universe*. 11.35 *Beast and Ceci*: *Canton*. 12.00 *A Handful of Songs*: Sung by Maria, Morgan and Keith Field. 12.10 *Once Upon a Time*: Peter Davalle tells the story of *The Little Round Pot*. 12.30 *Home Movie*: For the Home: Modern-style crocheting (see Personal Choice). 9.00 *Escape*: Lord Lucan, reconstruction of the case of

visitors. Pinewood Studios and the BBC. 10.15 *Living Legends*: The fact and fiction about Captain Kidd. 11.45 *News headlines and weather forecast*. 12.45 *News*. 1.00 *Touch of Evil*: Orson Welles directs, and stars in (as an evil detective) this drama about narcotics, murder and police corruption in Mexico. Also starring Charlton Heston and Edward G. Robinson. A British approach by Marlene Dietrich. Film ends at 12.40 am.

## Regions

**Wales:** 1.00 *VARIATIONS*: BBC CYMRU. 1.30 *News*. 2.00 *Wales at War*: *Wales* (c). 2.45 *Heads Up*: *Heads Up* (c). 3.25 *Angol*: 10.15-10.30 *Angol* (c). 3.45 *Wales at War*: *Wales* (c). 4.00 *News*. 4.30 *Wales at War*: *Wales* (c). 5.15 *Wales at War*: *Wales* (c). 5.30 *Wales*: *Wales* (c). 6.00 *Wales*: *Wales* (c). 6.30 *Wales*: *Wales* (c). 7.00 *Wales*: *Wales* (c). 7.30 *Wales*: *Wales* (c). 8.00 *Wales*: *Wales* (c). 8.30 *Wales*: *Wales* (c). 9.00 *Wales*: *Wales* (c). 9.30 *Wales*: *Wales* (c). 10.00 *Wales*: *Wales* (c). 10.30 *Wales*: *Wales* (c). 11.00 *Wales*: *Wales* (c). 11.30 *Wales*: *Wales* (c). 12.00 *Wales*: *Wales* (c). 12.30 *Wales*: *Wales* (c). 1.00 *Angol*: 10.15-10.30 *Angol* (c). 1.30 *Wales*: *Wales* (c). 2.00 *Angol*: 10.15-10.30 *Angol* (c). 2.30 *Wales*: *Wales* (c). 3.00 *Angol*: 10.15-10.30 *Angol* (c). 3.30 *Wales*: *Wales* (c). 4.00 *Angol*: 10.15-10.30 *Angol* (c). 4.30 *Wales*: *Wales* (c). 5.00 *Angol*: 10.15-10.30 *Angol* (c). 5.30 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